TOKYOPOP
BLADE OF HEAVEN
7
STORY BY
KYUNG IL YANG
ART BY
YONG SU HWANG

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Manga
Action/Fantasy
US $9.99
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The fighting rages on as Soma continues to battle with the guards of the Gateway—while Kay watches from the sidelines. When Soma finally disposes of the guards in the exhaustive conflict, Kay vows to destroy Soma one way or another. With the castle crumbling, the duo begins its clash. Soma is weak and tired from his many injuries, but when Fat Ninja appears on the scene, things begin to look up...until Soma loses the Chunwangshin Heart Sword!

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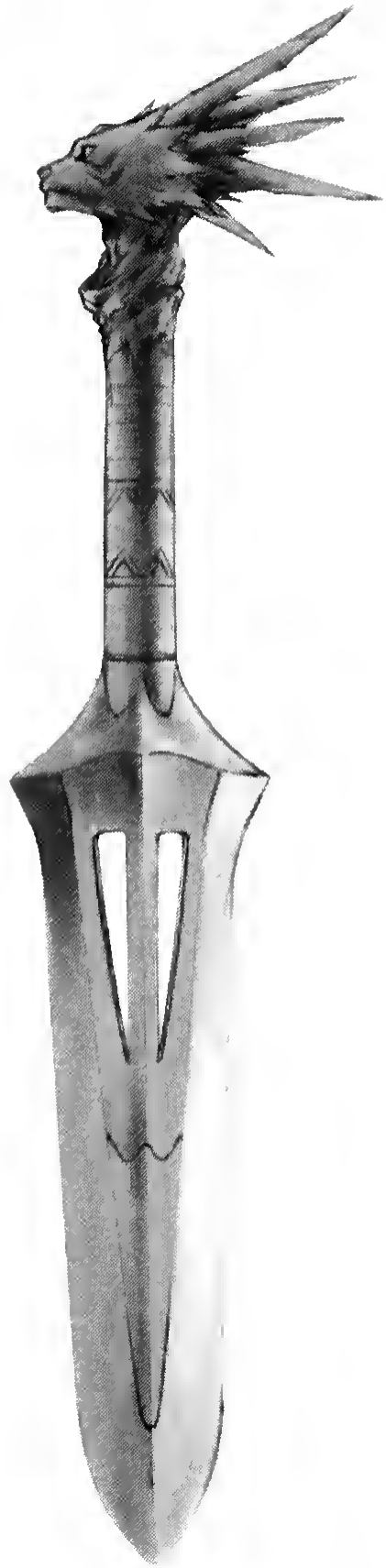
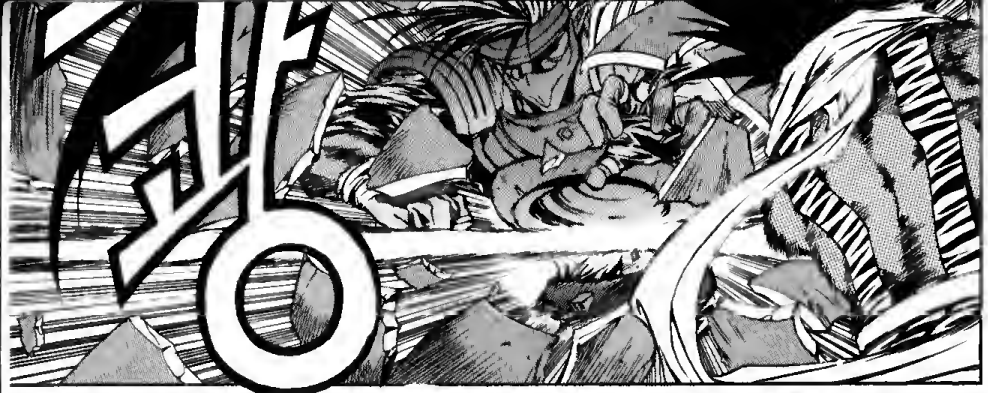


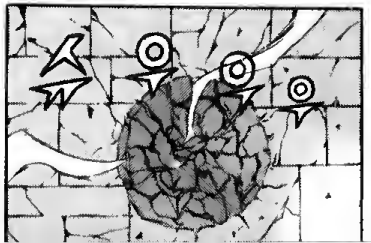
PREVIOUSLY IN

BLADE OF HEAVEN

IN THEIR SEARCH FOR THE DIVINE GRACE, SOMA AND HIS COMPANIONS HAVE BEEN DRAWN INTO THE HALLWAYS OF A MYSTERIOUS CASTLE THAT LIES BENEATH THE SURFACE OF A LAKE. SEPARATED FROM THE OTHERS, SOMA IS MET BY A WISEMAN, WHO INFORMS HIM THAT HE IS NOW THE TRUE WIELDER OF THE HEART SWORD, AND OFFERS THE YOUNG WARRIOR INSTRUCTION IN ITS PROPER USE. AND WHILE THE PRINCESS AND HER FRIENDS FEND OFF ATTACKS FROM THE GATEWAY GUARDIANS, A JEALOUS KAY PREPARES TO USURP THE POWER OF THE CHUNWANGSHIN SWORD FROM SOMA...



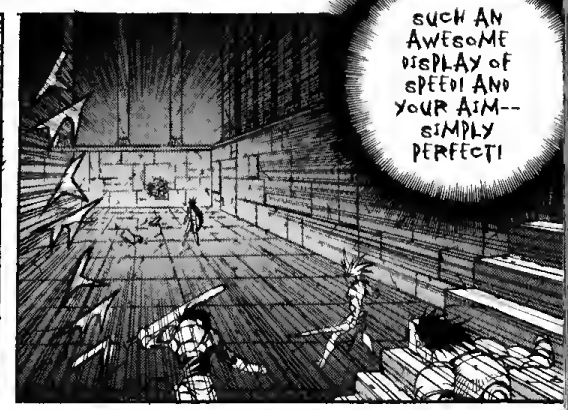
KRACK!

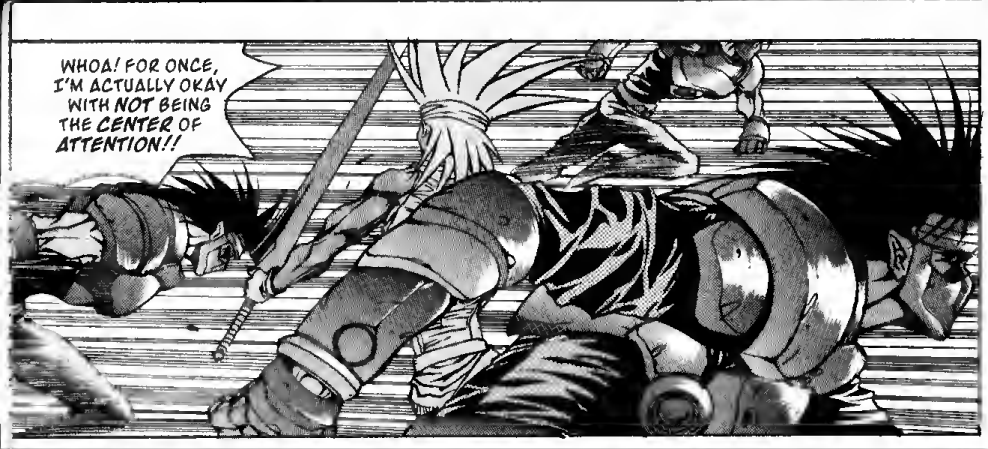


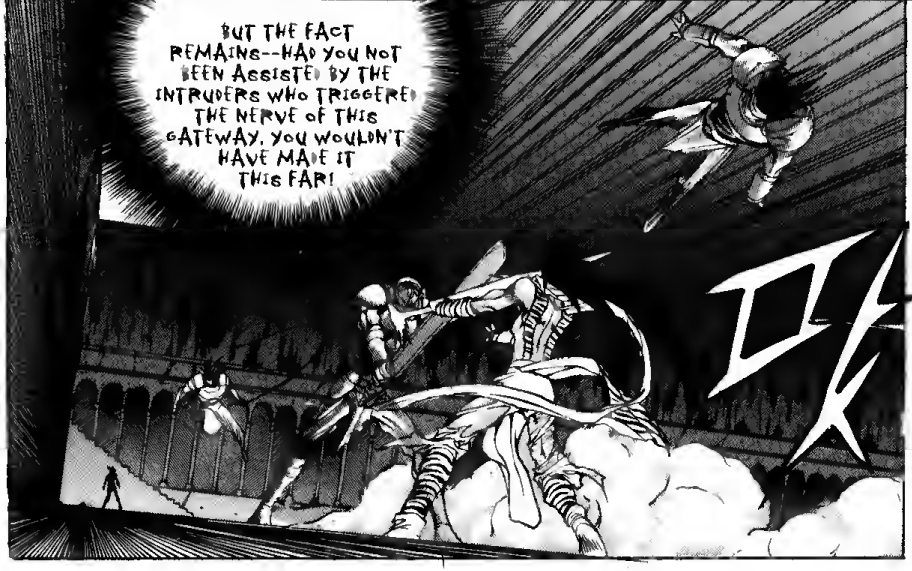
HOLY--!!
HE HIT THE GUY SO HARD, HE EVAPORATED ?!

HUFF...
HUFF...
HUFF...
ANYBODY ELSE WANNA DANCE?!

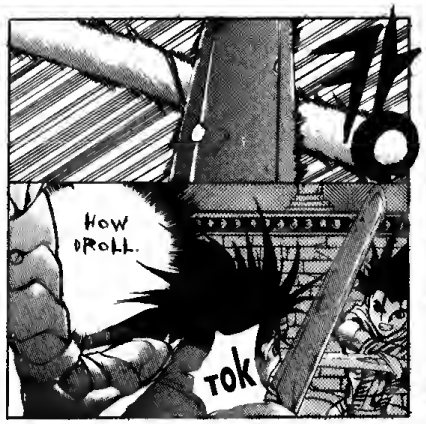
YOU ARE TRULY AMAZING, DIVINE GRACE!


SUCH AN AWESOME DISPLAY OF SPEED! AND YOUR AIM-- SIMPLY PERFECT!

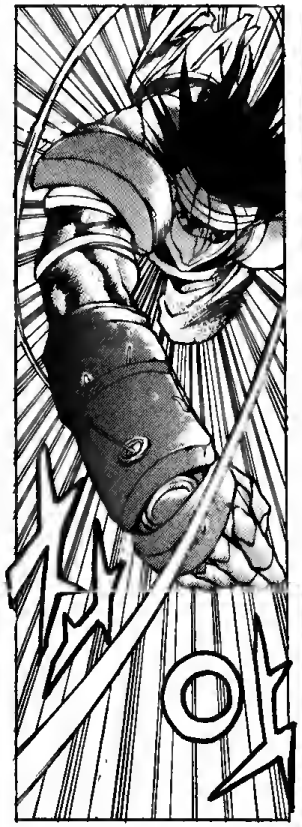

WHOA! FOR ONCE, I'M ACTUALLY OKAY WITH NOT BEING THE CENTER OF ATTENTION!!


BUT THE FACT REMAINS--HAD YOU NOT BEEN ASSISTED BY THE INTRUDERS WHO TRIGGERED THE NERVE OF THIS GATEWAY, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE MADE IT THIS FAR!
DI

I HAVE AS MUCH USE FOR YOUR FLATTERY AS I DO A SMALLER LOINCLOTH!


HOW DROLL.
TOK

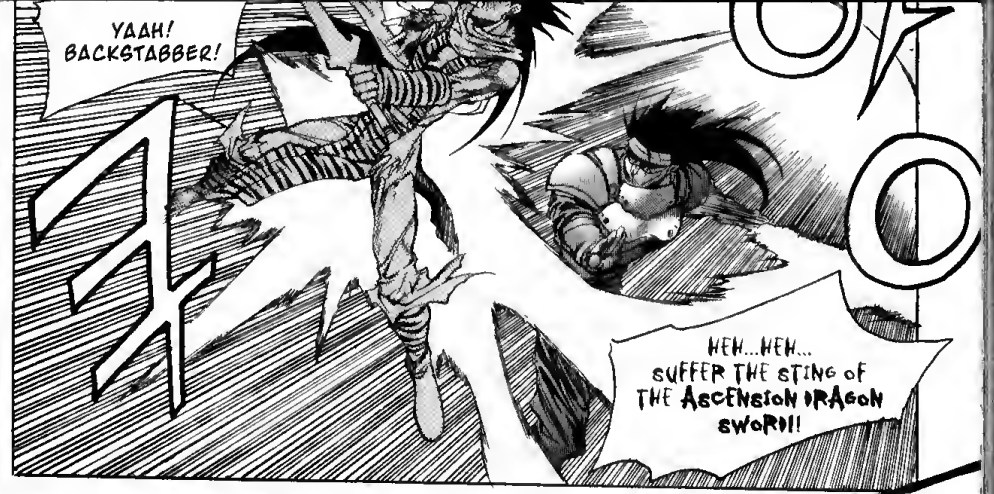
?!

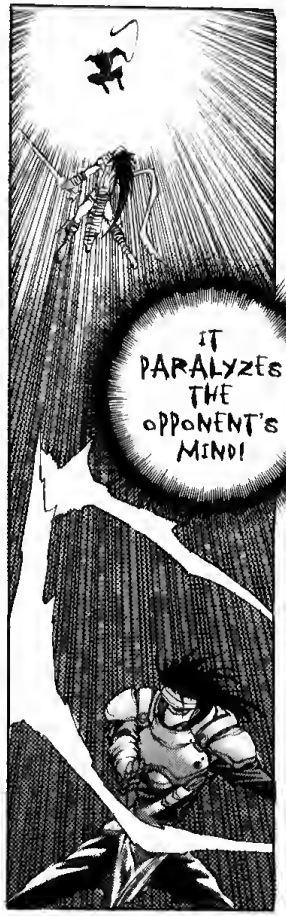


GAK!

C-CAN'T... B-BREATHE ...!!

NYAAAH!!

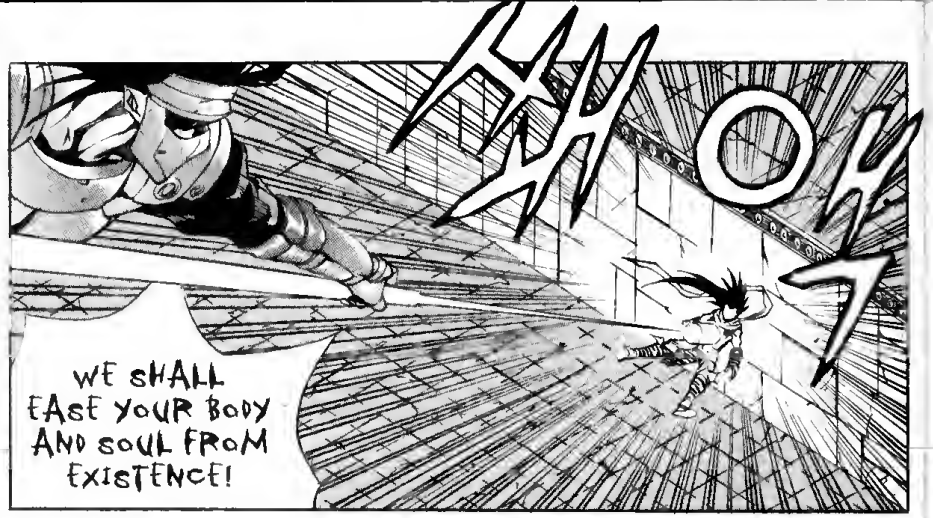

YAAH! BACKSTABBER!
HEH...HEH... SUFFER THE STING OF THE ASCENSION DRAGON SWORD!!

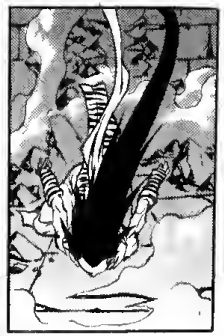

IT PARALYZES THE OPPONENT'S MIND!

CHUN GHN PRESSURE POINT ATTACK!!

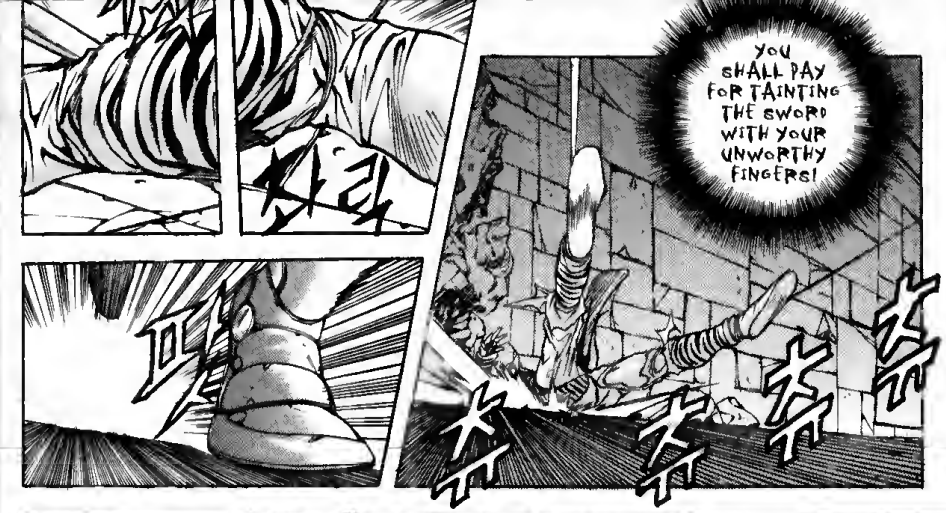
THE CHUN GHN PRESSURE POINT ATTACK BURROWS THROUGH THE BODY OF THE OPPONENT, TARGETING THE NERVES!
IDIOT! HE DROPPED THE HEART SWORD!
NOW'S MY CHANCE TO TAKE IT!!

RAPID DEATH ATTACK!!
YEEEAH, BABY!! IN YOUR FACE!! WHO'S THE BIG MAN IN THE TOMB, NOW?!


WE SHALL EASE YOUR BODY AND SOUL FROM EXISTENCE!



AND NOW... FOR YOUR FINAL LESSON!

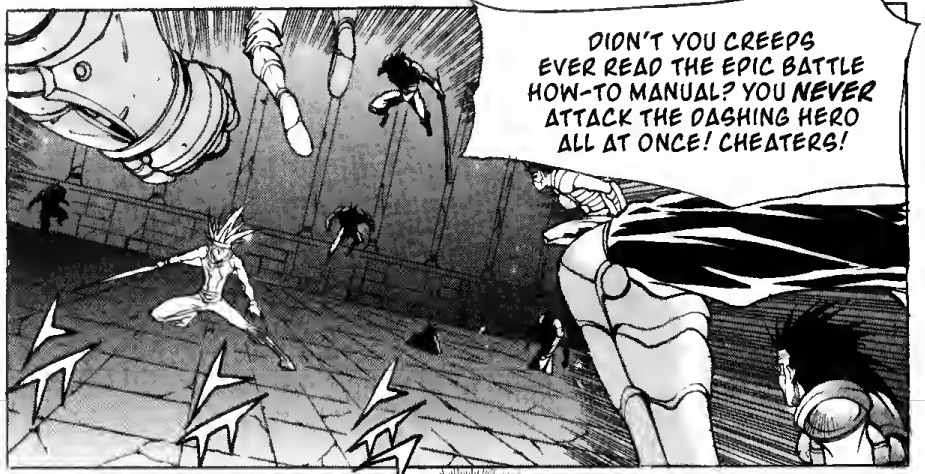

YOU SHALL PAY FOR TAINTING THE SWORD WITH YOUR UNWORTHY FINGERS!

SOMA! WAKE UP, YOU MORON!

IF YOU EVER WANNA MAKE STUPID LITTLE RUG RATS LIKE YOURSELF, YOU'LL COVER YOUR CHESTNUTS AND BREAK FREE!

BLADE OF HEAVEN

I MAY HATE HIS GUTS, BUT NO MAN DESERVES TO GET HACKED IN HIS CHICK MAGNET!
TORPEDO ATTACK !!
WHAT THE--?! THEY DEFLECTED MY ATTACK?!
WHOA, NELLY!
SONOFA --!!


DIDN'T YOU CREEPS EVER READ THE EPIC BATTLE HOW-TO MANUAL? YOU NEVER ATTACK THE DASHING HERO ALL AT ONCE! CHEATERS!

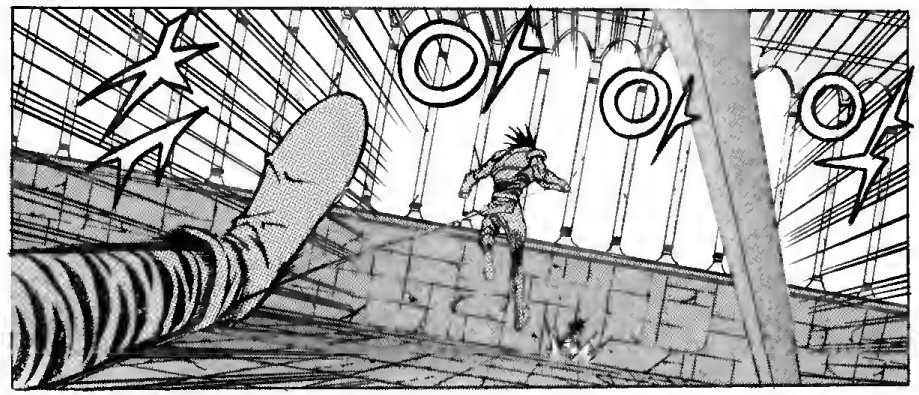
TO BE A MASTER OF MARTIAL ARTS...

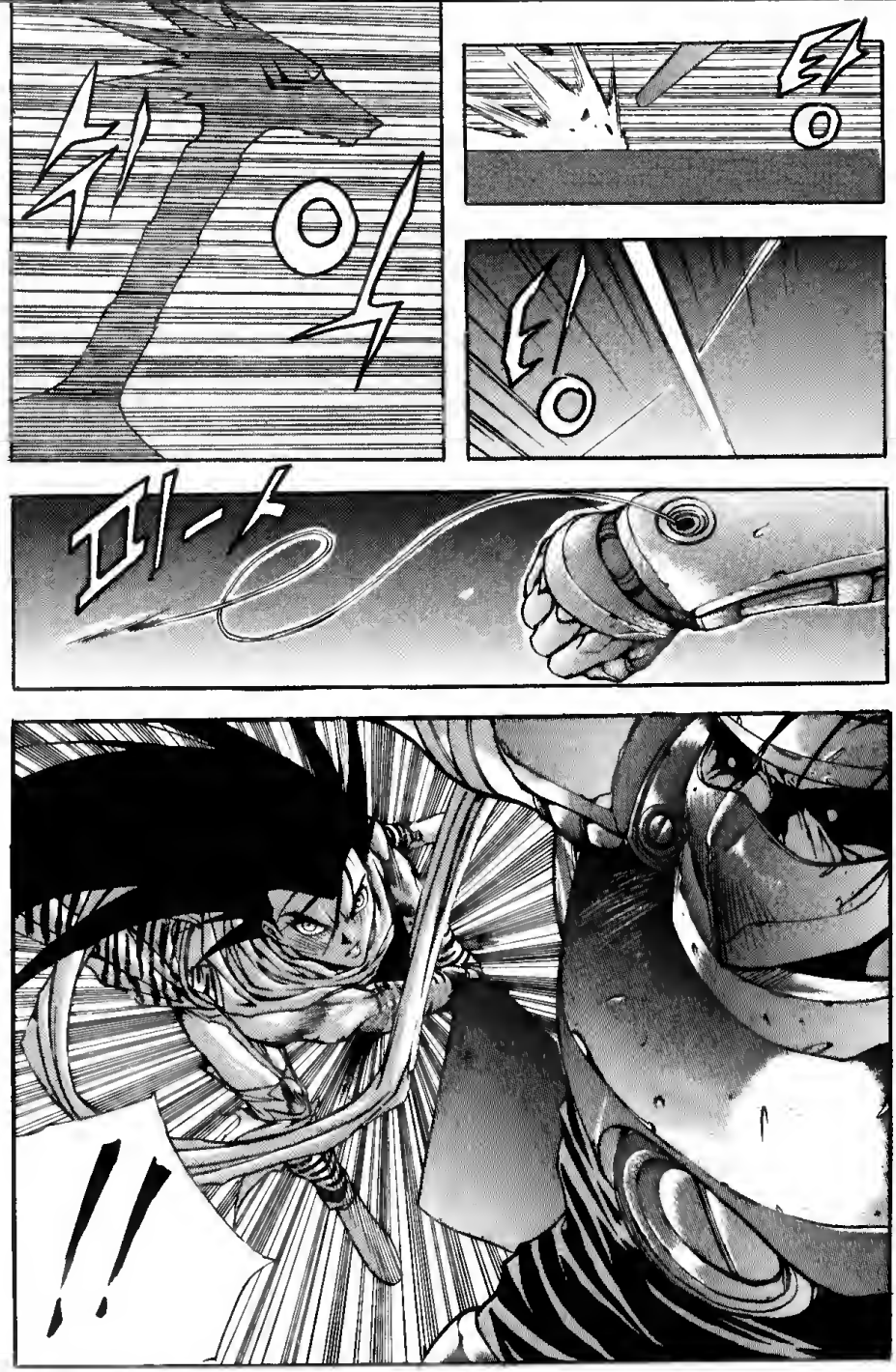
...IS TO TRAIN YOUR ENTIRE BODY TO BE AS STRONG AS IRON!

HOWEVER, THE MOST IMPORTANT TECHNIQUE TO MASTER IS CALMING YOUR MIND IN THE HEAT OF BATTLE.

ONLY WHEN YOU'VE MASTERED SELF-CONTROL, WILL YOUR MIND AND BODY BE STRATEGICALLY ALERT!

CLEAR YOUR MIND--AND YOU WILL BE ABLE TO TURN ANY SITUATION TO YOUR ADVANTAGE!




휘익
타!
타!
파-ㅅ
!!

파악
!
촤악

THIS IS THE MOST FUNDAMENTAL POWER AVAILABLE TO BOUND ENERGY!!

NO! I'M TOO LATE!
THE YOUNG MASTER HAS SUCCUMBED TO THE KWANGMA DEVIL!!
MAKE HASTE, MORTAL!!

YOUNG MASTER--YOU MUST SEIZE CONTROL OF THIS BEAST!!
HURK...! H-HE'S... T-TOO...S-STRONG...!
MACHUN!

EH...?

Y-YOUR POWER... UNH...IS INDEED...HUNH... U-UNDENIABLE...

S-SO POWERFUL... THAT I NO L-LONGER RECOGNIZE YOU, YOUNG MASTER! OR, SHOULD I SAY... KWANGMA DEVIL...

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YOU WANT MY BLOOD?! THEN COME AND GET IT!
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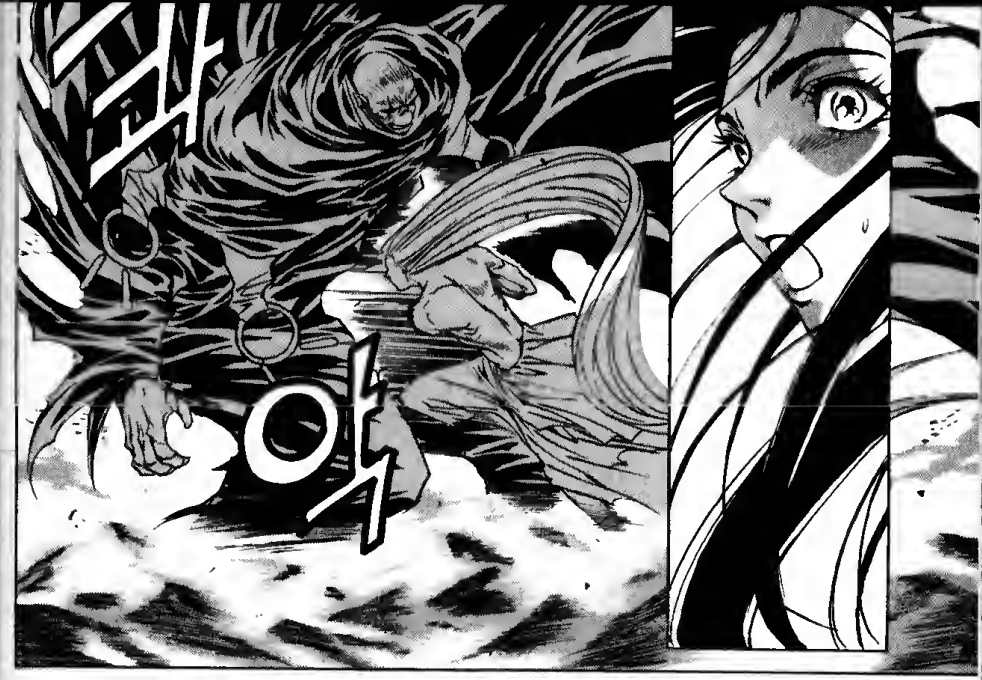
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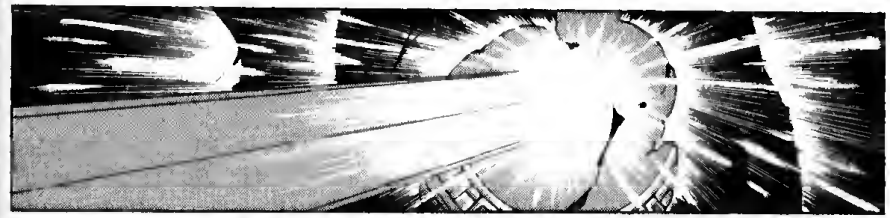
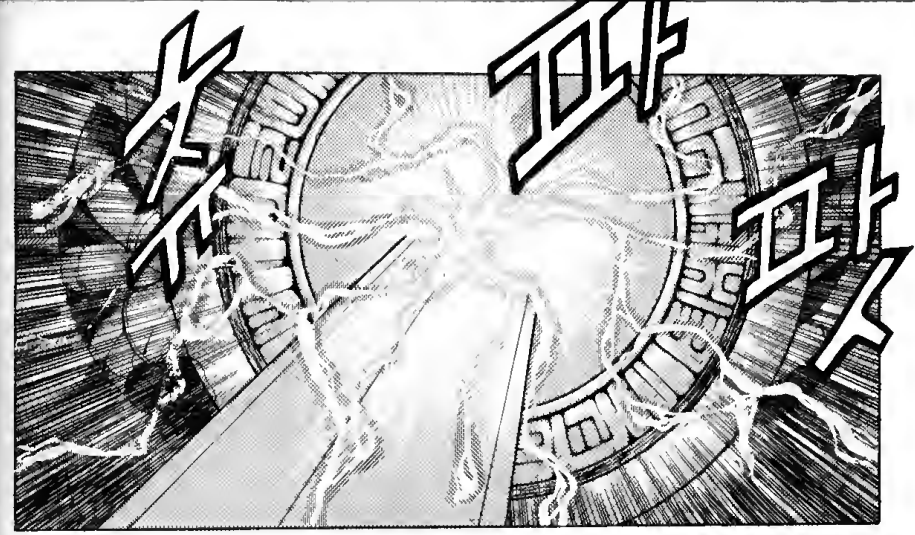


C-CONGRATULATIONS. Y-YOUNG MASTER YOU HAVE J-JUST KNOCKED ON MASTER MACHUNROO'S DOOR!



MY MISSION IS NOW COMPLETE! YOUR FATHER AWAITS YOU ON THE OTHER SIDE!

IT IS DONE. COME, MORTAL. I WILL HELP YOU ESCAPE FROM THIS PLACE.
I GIVE YOU MY WORD NO HARM WILL BEFALL YOU.
HUFF ...
EVEN AFTER THE KWANGMA DEVIL CONSUMED HIS MIND, YOUNG MASTER DID NOT KILL YOU. THEREFORE, I, AS A SERVANT OF MASTER MACHUNROO, HAVE AN OBLIGATION TO HONOR MY MASTER'S WISHES
HUFF ...
BUT... WHERE DID HE GO...?
HE IS HERE...BUT NOT. HE IS INSIDE ME... BUT NOT.

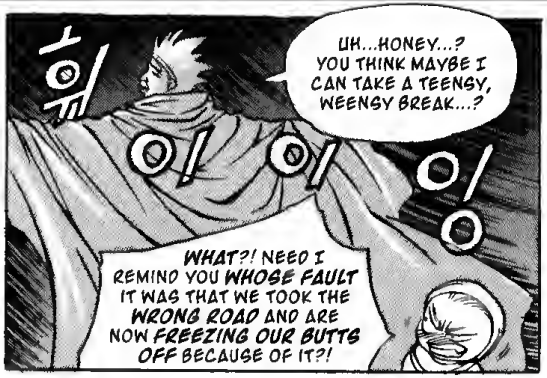
STOP! WHAT'RE YOU DOING TO MAKUMRANG?! YOU'RE SUCKING HIM...INSIDE YOUR BODY?!

UNDERSTAND...THE GATEWAY TO MACHUNROO DOES NOT EXIST IN A SPECIFIC LOCATION. INSTEAD, THEY EXIST WITHIN THE BODIES OF FOUR LIVING GATEKEEPERS.
I, MACHUN, AM ONE OF THOSE GATEKEEPERS. THE NORTH GATE, TO BE SPECIFIC.

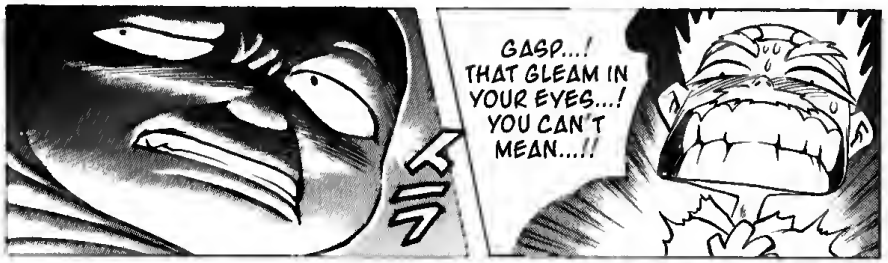
WELL, WELL... WELCOME HOME...
...SON!

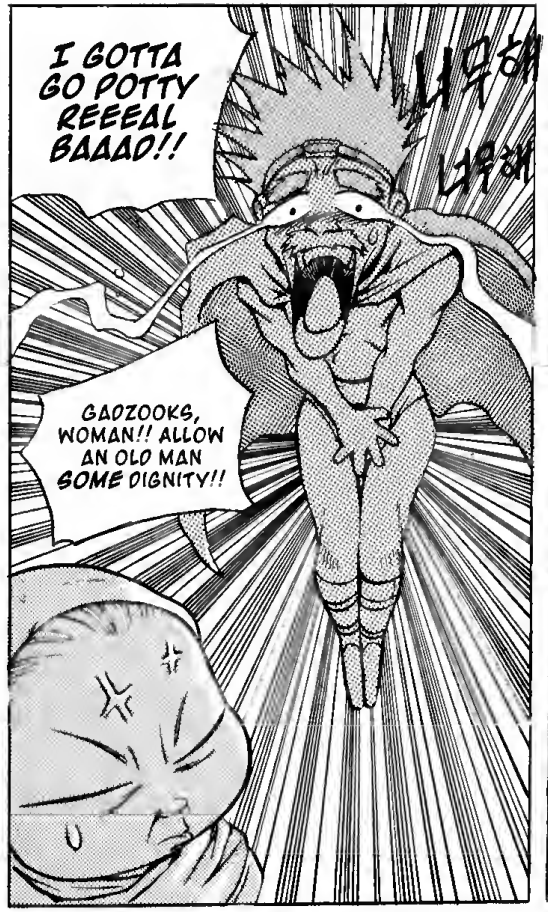
AH-
CHOO!!

COVER YOUR MOUTH WHEN YOU SNEEZE, YA OLD COOT! I TOLD YOU YOU'D CATCH COLD IF YOU DIDN'T HOLD YOUR CAPE CLOSED!


UH...HONEY...? YOU THINK MAYBE I CAN TAKE A TEENSY, WEENSY BREAK...?
WHAT?! NEED I REMIND YOU WHOSE FAULT IT WAS THAT WE TOOK THE WRONG ROAD AND ARE NOW FREEZING OUR BUTTS OFF BECAUSE OF IT?!

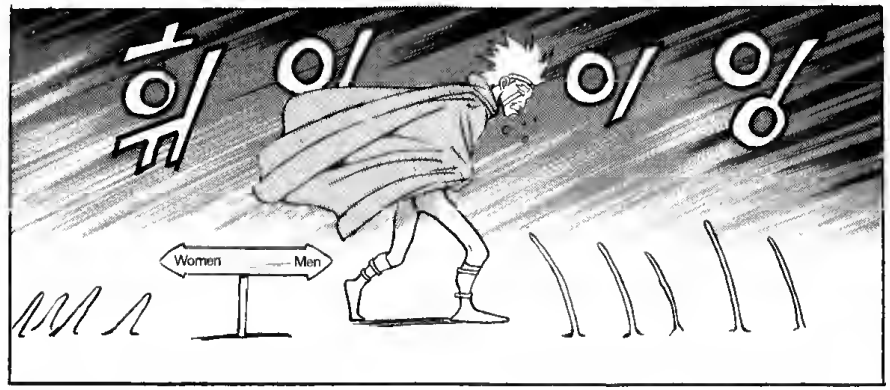
IT'S JUST THAT...THERE WAS NOTHING TO EAT...AND I WAS SOO HUNGRY, SO I ATE SOME ICE...AND NOW I HAVE TO...


GASP...! THAT GLEAM IN YOUR EYES...! YOU CAN'T MEAN...!!


I GOTTA GO POTTY REEEAL BAAAD!!
GADZOOKS, WOMAN!! ALLOW AN OLD MAN SOME DIGNITY!!

BAH! ENOUGH OF YOUR MINDLESS RAMBLING AND GO DO YOUR BUSINESS, ALREADY!

AND JUST WHERE DO YOU EXPECT ME TO GO?! THIS PILE OF SNOW IS THE WOMEN'S RESTROOM!


Women
Men

Fsssh...
HEY! WATCH WHERE YA AIM THAT WRINKLED OLD THING, BUDDY!
JUST LOOK AT MY BEAUTIFUL WINGS! THEY'RE SOPPING WET!
EEEP!
HOON-NEEY! THERE'S AN INCREDIBLY HOT-LOOKING BUG TALKING TO ME! AND SHE SAW LI'L GENERAL WINTER!
WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT NOW, MAN?! DID YOU EAT SOME YELLOW SNOW OR WHAT?!
칠 석
흑 나 닥

BUG?! WHO ARE YOU CALLING A BUG, PRUNE FACE?! MY NAME IS BOOANG!
BY ORDER OF THE QUEEN, I'M HERE TO ESCORT THE MAGNIFICENT KNIGHT!
HA! DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS "BOING?!"
Plop!
ICK! STOP DROOLING, YA DIRTY BIRD, YOU!
SIGH...IT'S ALL RIGHT, OLD FEMALE PERSON. SURE, MY PRESENT FORM MAY ENTICE YOUR MASTER TO DROOL AND CONVULSE IN DELIGHT ...
...BUT, BEING THE YOUNGEST OF MY SISTERS, I HAVE TO FOLLOW ORDERS. ONCE THE ONE I'M WAITING FOR ARRIVES, MY VOLUPTUOUS BODY WILL ASSUME A NEW FORM.
MASTER?! THE NERVE! I ANSWER ONLY TO THE KING--NOT THIS SLOBBERING CRETIN!

WHATEVER I COULDN'T CARE LESS WHAT A DRIED-UP MUMMY LIKE YOU THINKS--ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO THE YEARNING HEART OF A YOUNG DAMSEL!
WHEN THE QUEEN TOLD ME THAT GENERAL WINTER WAS COMING, I GOT SOO EXCITED! SURE, HE'S ONLY A HUNDRED YEARS OLD--BUT WHAT'S A 290-YEAR GAP WHEN IT COMES TO LOVE...?
MUMMY ?!
DRIED-UP?!

ER, MISS. ? I'M AFRAID THAT I'M GENERAL WINTER.
Poke
Poke

QUIET, YOU! YOU'VE ALREADY GIVEN ME A GOLDEN SHOWER--SO QUIT RAINING ON MY PARADE!

WILL YOU LISTEN, YER DAFT DINGBAT! I'M GENERAL WINTER!!

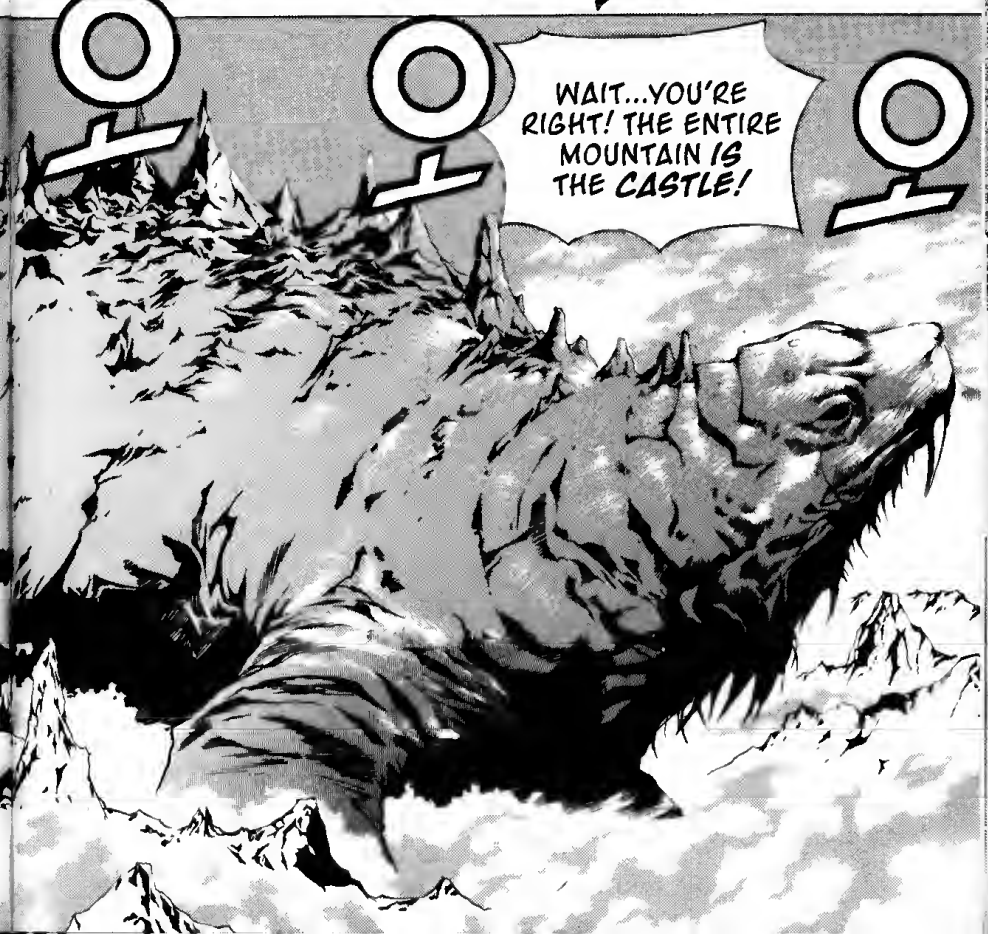
YOU...?

YOU'RE GENERAL!

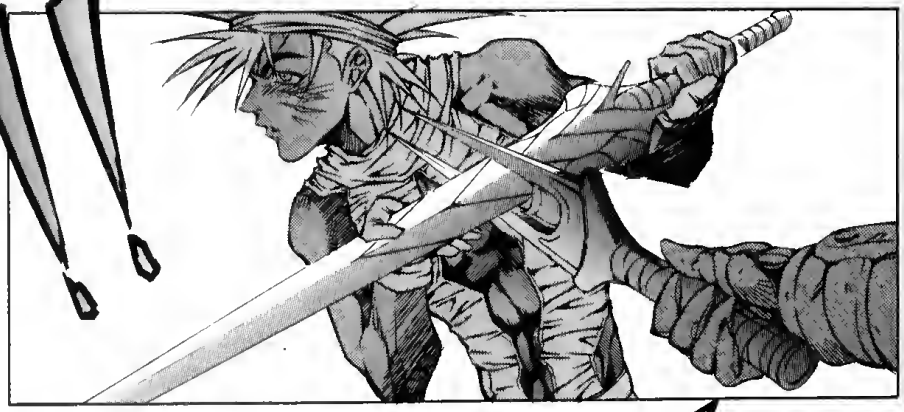
...URP! I THINK I'M GONNA...

WHA...? I'M NOT THAT UGLY, YER PRECOCIOUS PIXIE!
ENOUGH TALK! WHERE'S THE QUEEN?! WHERE'S HER CASTLE?!

WHAT DO MEAN, WHERE IS IT? THIS IS THE QUEEN OF HEAVEN'S CASTLE!!


WAIT...YOU'RE RIGHT! THE ENTIRE MOUNTAIN IS THE CASTLE!

BLADE OF HEAVEN



HUH...?
WHAT'S GOING ON?!
WHAT'S HE...?!

THEY'RE RELENTLESS...! THEY JUST KEEP COMING, NO MATTER HOW MANY OF THEM I CUT DOWN!
HUFF...
S'KAY... I'M JUST... W-WARM-ING...UP...
HUFF...
HUFF...

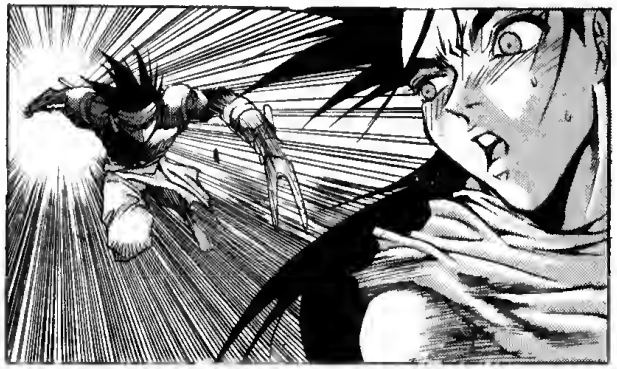
HEY... BIG MOUTH! WHAT DID YOU SAY YOUR NAME WAS AGAIN?
KAY, WAS IT? WELL, KAY... THANKS FOR THE HELP--BUT YOUR SERVICES ARE NO LONGER REQUIRED! SO SCRAM!
SOMA....?
W-WHAT?! WHY Y-YOU FILTHY LITTLE MONKEY!!
I WASN'T FIGHTING THESE JERKS TO HELP YOU!! I WAS FIGHTING THEM BECAUSE THEY GOT ON MY NERVES!!
IF I WANNA GET OUT OF HERE IN ONE PIECE, THEN I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO FIGHT THEM! BUT ONCE WE DO ESCAPE-- YOU AND I HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS!

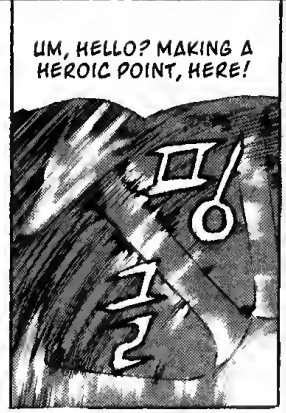
WHAT'D I SAY?! THIS IS MY FIGHT! YOU KEEP YOUR HAND IN THE COOKIE JAR TOO LONG--IT'S BOUND TO GET HACKED OFF!!
WHY, THAT ARROGANT LITTLE BOOGER....!!!
FINE! IF YOU'RE THAT DESPERATE TO THROW YOUR LIFE AWAY, THEN ALLOW ME TO QUICKEN YOU--TO YOUR GRAVE!
IT APPEARS YOUR BLUSTERING PERSONALITY REMAINS INTACT

BUT ALL THE BOASTS AND QUIPS IN THE WORLD CANNOT HIDE THE FACT THAT YOU'RE BARELY ABLE TO STAND! INTERNALLY, YOU HAVE ALREADY BEEN VAN-QUISHED!

Y'KNOW, WITH ALL THE CRAP THAT'S POURIN' OUTTA THAT HOLE IN YOUR HEAD YOU CALL A MOUTH, IT'S A MIRACLE I DON'T SLIP AND SPRAIN AN ANKLE!

YOU MAY BE ABLE TO OBLITERATE MY BODY...OR EVEN SCATTER MY SOUL...BUT YOU WILL NEVER DESTROY MY HEART AND MIND!

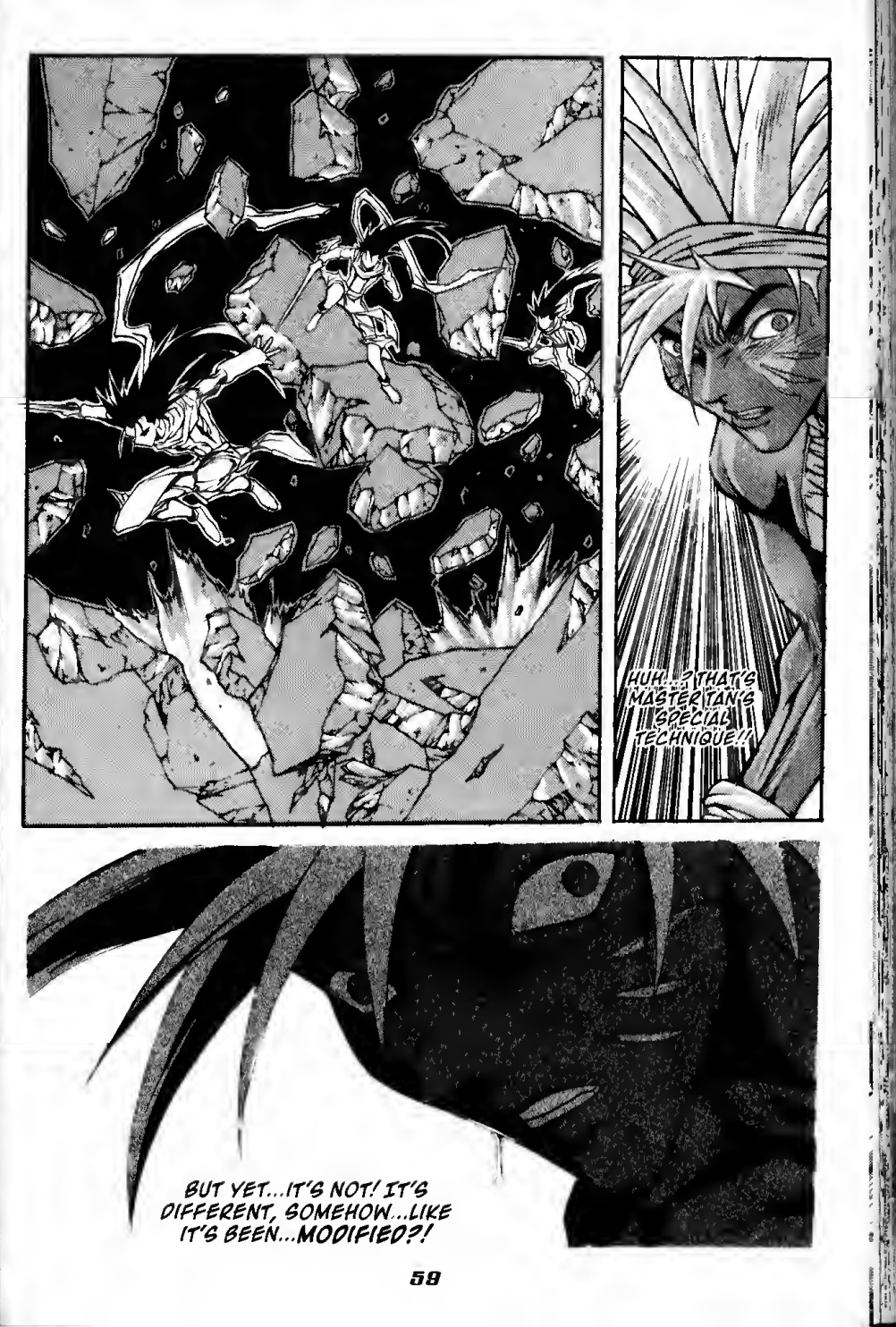



UM, HELLO? MAKING A HEROIC POINT, HERE!

GUARK!
WHERE WAS I... OH! I HAVE SOMETHING ON MY SIDE THAT YOU CHUMPS CAN NEVER TOUCH! FAITH! MY FRIENDS HAVE FAITH IN ME! IT'S BECAUSE OF THEM THAT I WILL ENDURE!

C'MON, YA WALLFLOWERS! STEP ONTO THE DANCE FLOOR! LION ENERGY!!

SMOOTH MOVE, GENIUS! THANKS TO YOU, WE'RE GONNA BE BURIED ALIVE!
I'M RIGHT HERE, YOU SCUM!!
COME ON! YOU PROMISED ME A GRAVE! NOW PUT ME IN IT--IF YOU CAN!!

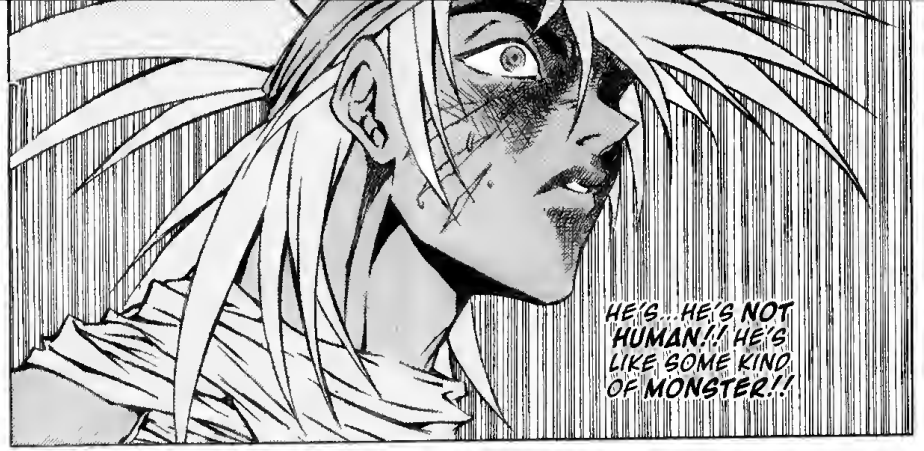

HUH...? THAT'S MASTER TAN'S SPECIAL TECHNIQUE!!
BUT YET...IT'S NOT! IT'S DIFFERENT, SOMEHOW...LIKE IT'S BEEN...MODIFIED?!

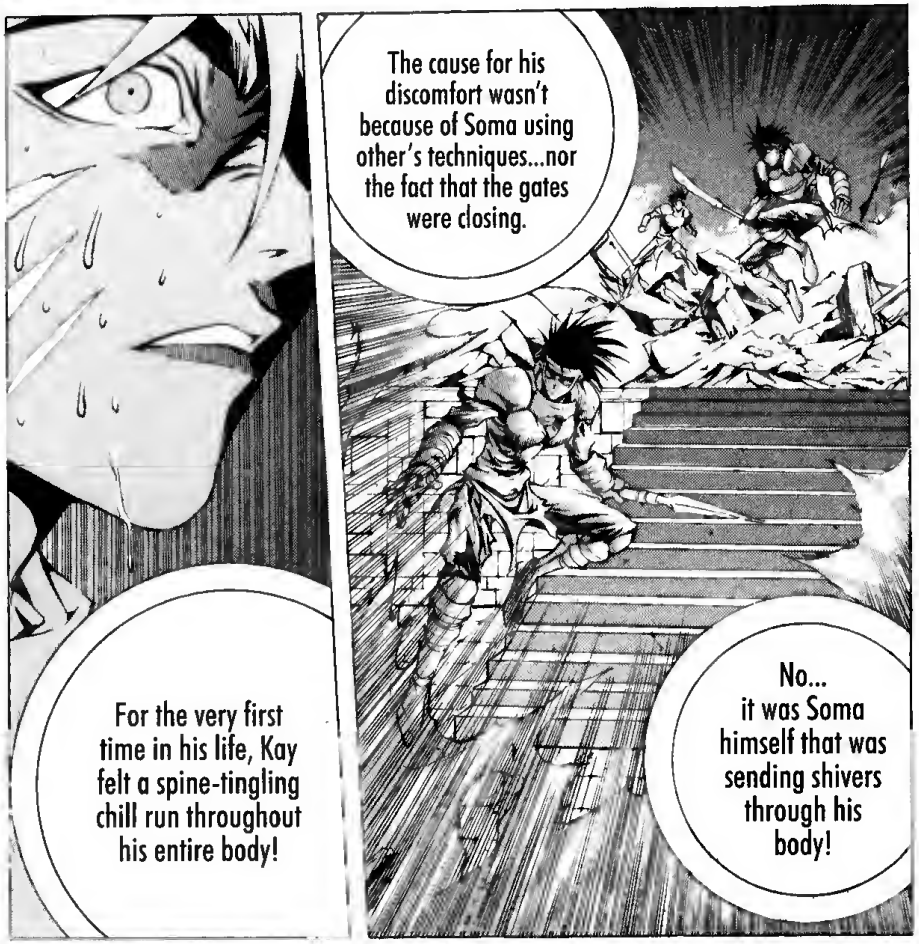
WHEN SOMEONE USING BOUND ENERGY IS ATTACKED, THE ATTACKER NOT ONLY MISSES, BUT IS HIT WITH A BLAST OF ENERGY! BOUND ENERGY MAY NOT LOOK LIKE MUCH OF A FIGHTING TECHNIQUE...
...AND IT MAY APPEAR AS IMPRECISE AS A LEAF FLOATING ON THE BREEZE... BUT IT CAN BE EXTREMELY DEVASTATING!
WAIT...IS THAT...? IT IS! TECHNIQUE 72!! THAT'S MINE!!
WHY THAT THIEVING LITTLE BASTARD....!!

BOUND ENERGY IS CREATED THROUGH THE PRINCIPLES OF NATURE!

THEREFORE, THERE IS NO SET FORM OR FORMULA FOR THIS ENERGY! IT CAN TAKE ON ALL FORMS--AND BECOME ONE!!

BLADE OF HEAVEN


HE'S...HE'S NOT HUMAN!! HE'S LIKE SOME KIND OF MONSTER!!


The cause for his discomfort wasn't because of Soma using other's techniques...nor the fact that the gates were closing.
No... it was Soma himself that was sending shivers through his body!
For the very first time in his life, Kay felt a spine-tingling chill run throughout his entire body!

Since Kay's first encounter with Soma, he was confident that he could defeat him.

But now, after only a brief span of time, he is racked by the realizatian that Soma has surpassed even his capabilities!

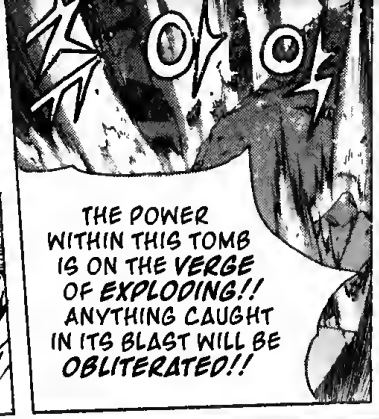
Soma was soaring to heights that Kay could only dream of reaching!

For the first time in his young life, Kay stood speechless...speechless before the Divine Grace inside Soma!
I REFUSE TO LIVE IN YOUR SHADOW! THAT'S WHY I MUST KILL YOU!!

THE GUARDS OF THE GATEWAY ARE DYING!
SOMEONE MUST HAVE INITIATED A SELF-DESTRUCT MODE!

IT FEELS LIKE...
...THIS ENTIRE STRUCTURE IS RISING ABOVE GROUND!

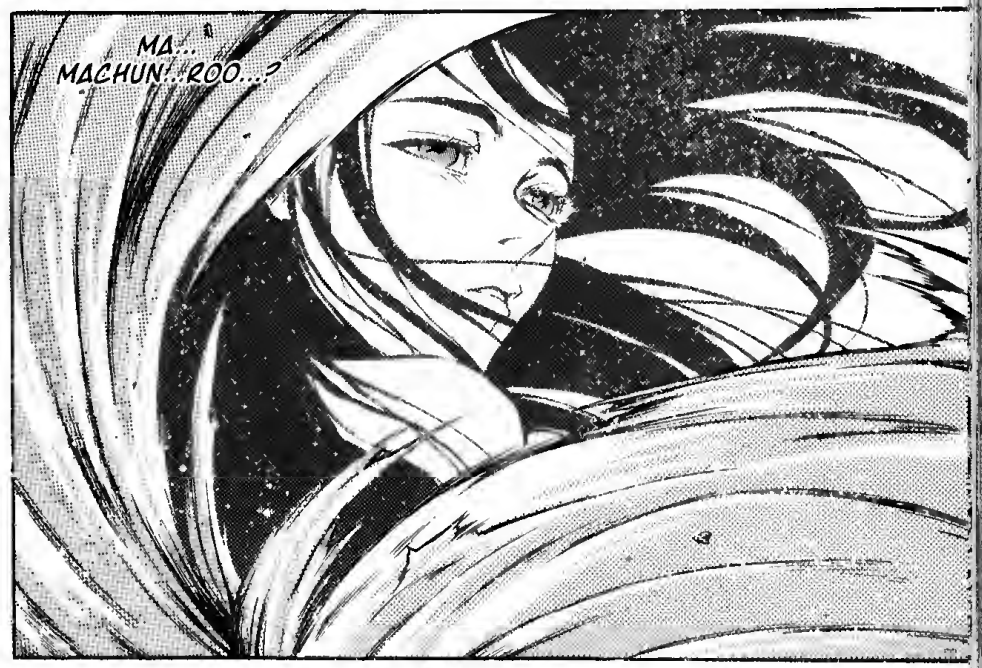
QUICKLY! WE MUST ESCAPE BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!


THE POWER WITHIN THIS TOMB IS ON THE VERGE OF EXPLODING!! ANYTHING CAUGHT IN ITS BLAST WILL BE OBLITERATED!!

LOOK OUT!!

I'LL TAKE YOU TO MASTER MACHUNROO! YOU'LL BE SAFE THERE!
COME! TAKE MY HAND!

WHA...?


MA... MACHUN!..ROO...?

FAT NINJA!! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
COME ON!!
NO!!
IF WE STAY ANY LONGER, WE'LL BE KILLED!!
I CAN'T LEAVE DONG DONG HERE BY HERSELF!!
I-I...P-PROMISED CHULDO...
WAAH!!
NO!! FAT NINJA!!

BLADE OF HEAVEN

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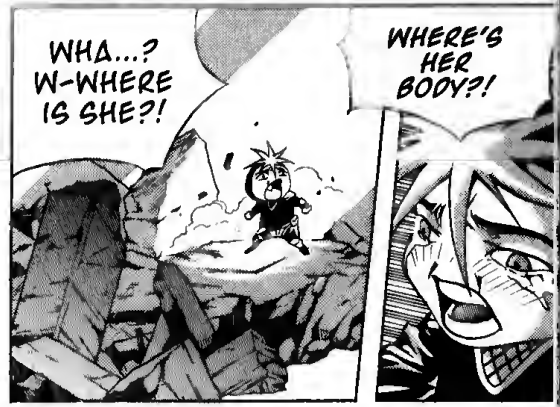
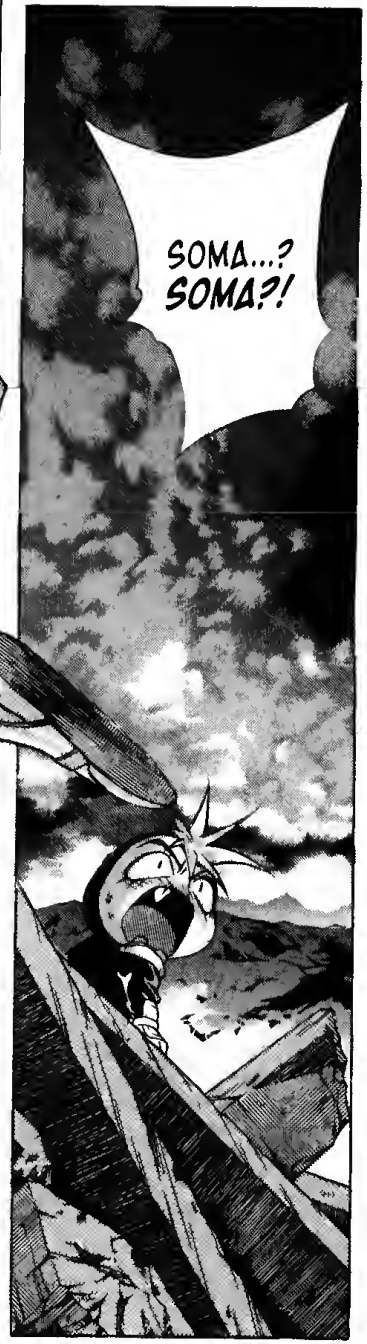
DONG...
DONG...?


WHA...?
W-WHERE
IS SHE?!
WHERE'S
HER
BODY?!

I
PROMISED...!
I...I...

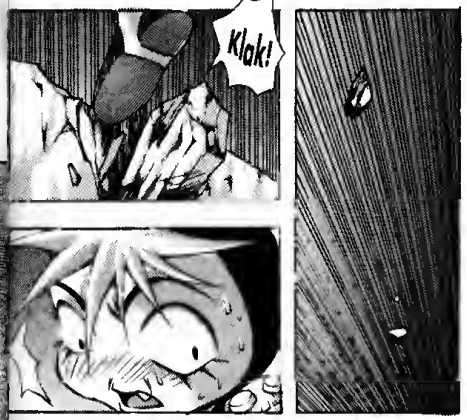

SOMA...?
SOMA?!

Plip!
Drip!

HUFF...
THE WOUNDS I RECEIVED FROM FIGHTING THE GATE GUARDIANS...

...THEY WON'T STOP BLEEDING!
...TTACH
...TTACH

SOMA! W-WAIT! I'M COMIN' TA HELP YA!!


Klak!

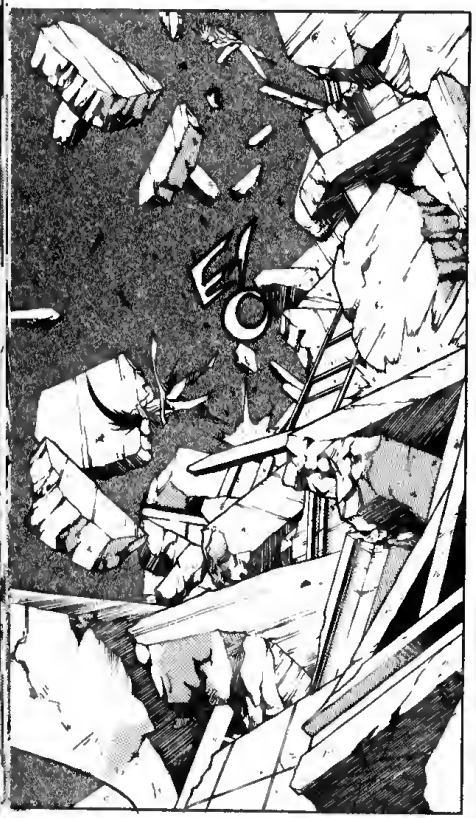
HOLY C-CRAP! I DIDN'T REALIZE HOW HIGH UP I WAS!!

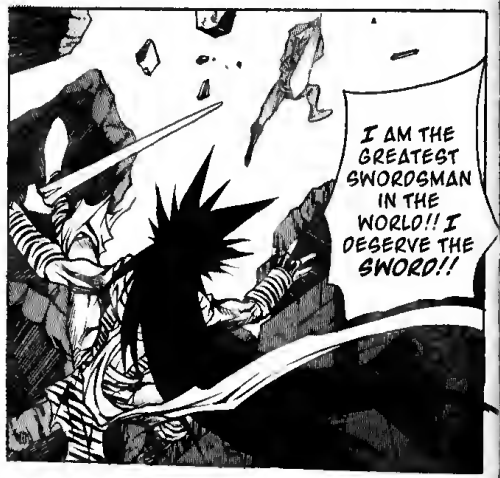
B-BUT IT'S N-NOTHING A MASTER ASSASSIN LIKE ME CAN'T D-DEAL WITH! HEH...
SUDDENLY, I HAVE THE STRONGEST URGE TO PEE...

J-JOURNAL... HUFF...OF THE DIVINE GRACE! CHAPTER ONE...GASP... V-VERSE ONE...!
THE BEGINNING OF DIVINE GRACE...AND THE END OF THE CONTINENT. NO ONE KNOWS HOW IT GOT ITS NAME...
...BUT IT WAS AT THIS PLACE... THE FORGOTTEN CONTINENT... WHERE THE LAST DIVINE GRACE WAS AWAKENED.
LEGEND HAS IT A TURBULENT WIND WOULD SWEEP ACROSS THE LANDS--AND THE SAVIOR OF THE WORLD WOULD BE BORN.

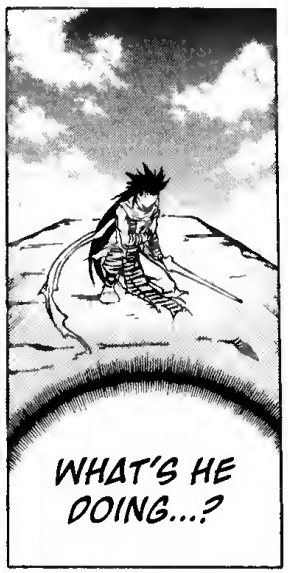
I AM THAT HERO, DAMMIT!!
I AM THE CHOSEN ONE WHOSE COMING THE FATES FORETOLD!
YOU DEFEATING ME IS NOT ONLY NOT AN OPTION--IT'S A CRIME AGAINST NATURE!!

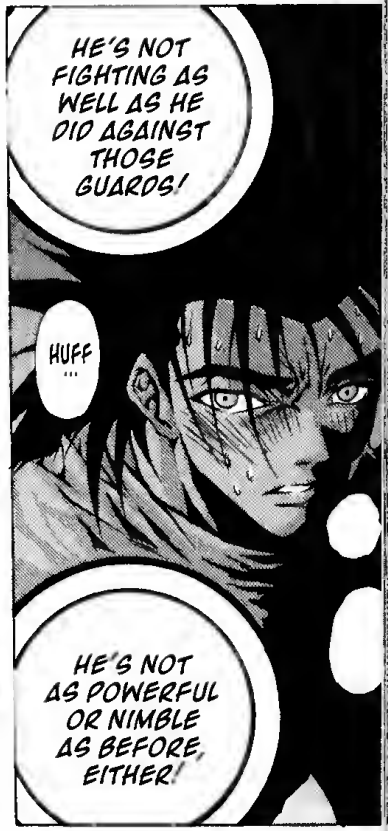
DODGE ALL YOU WANT--BUT THIS ENDS HERE AND NOW!!
TORPEDO ATTACK!!
JUST TO REMIND THAT DAMP SPONGE YOU CALL A BRAIN--ONCE MY TORPEDO ATTACK HAS BEEN RELEASED, IT WILL NOT STOP HUNTING ITS PREY UNTIL I COMMAND IT TO!!
NUMBER 72 TORPEDO SWORD COMBINE!!
HERE YA GO, HERO-BOY! I'LL GIVE YOU THIS MOVE ON THE HOUSE! OR DOES IT ONLY INTEREST YOU IF YOU HAVE TO STEAL IT?!
WHAT WOULD THE FATES THINK IF THEY KNEW THEIR LITTLE SAVIOR WAS A FILTHY THIEF?!

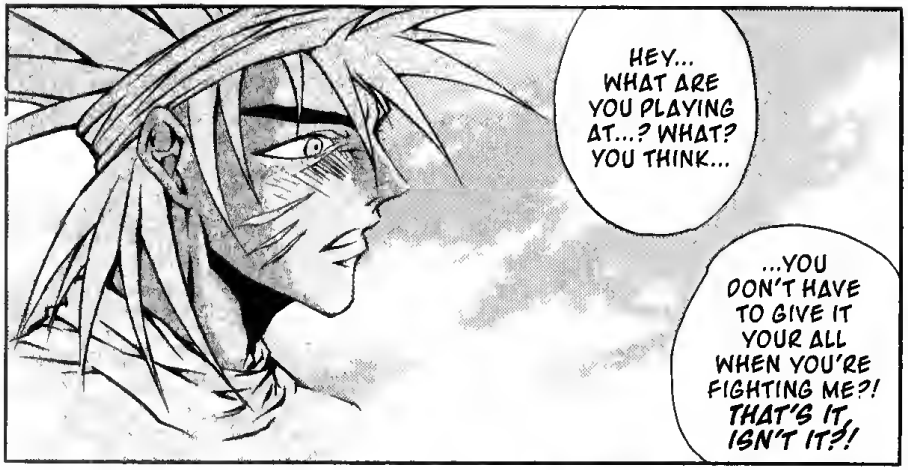


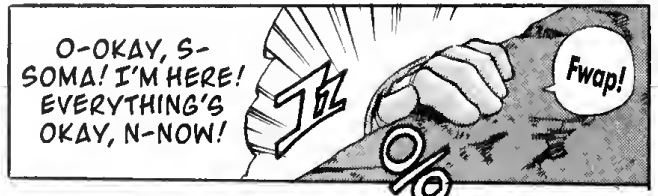

I AM THE GREATEST SWORDSMAN IN THE WORLD!! I DESERVE THE SWORD!!

YEAH...KINDA RUNNING OUT OF RUNWAY THERE, AIN'T 'CHA, SPEEDY?

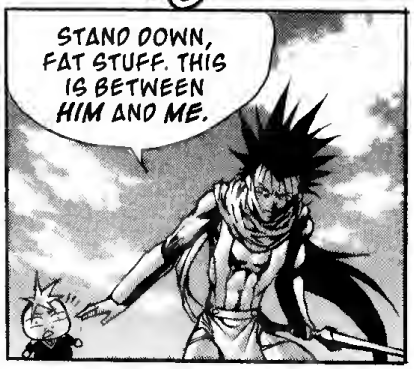

WHAT'S HE DOING...?


HE'S NOT FIGHTING AS WELL AS HE DID AGAINST THOSE GUARDS!
HUFF...
HE'S NOT AS POWERFUL OR NIMBLE AS BEFORE, EITHER!


HEY... WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT...? WHAT? YOU THINK...
...YOU DON'T HAVE TO GIVE IT YOUR ALL WHEN YOU'RE FIGHTING ME?! THAT'S IT, ISN'T IT?!


O-OKAY, S-SOMA! I'M HERE! EVERYTHING'S OKAY, N-NOW!
Fwap!

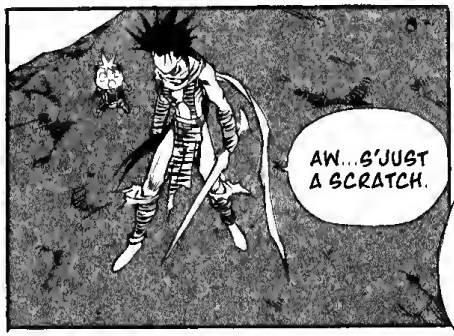
YOU! YEAH, I'M TALKIN' TA YOU, HAIR BOY! PREPARE TO BE DEVASTATED BY MY NINJA PROWESS!!


STAND DOWN, FAT STUFF. THIS IS BETWEEN HIM AND ME.

BLOOD...?

HE'S HURT REALLY BAD...

B-BUT, SOMA... Y-YOUR SIDE...


AW...S'JUST A SCRATCH.

D-DON'T EVEN F-FEEL IT... HEH HEH...!
'SIDES... IT'LL BE H-HEALED BEFORE THIS LOSER CAN ACTUALLY LAY A H-HAND ON ME...

I DON'T BELIEVE...!! YOU--YOU-- HOO HOO!! I AM SO GONNA ENJOY MURDERING YOU!!

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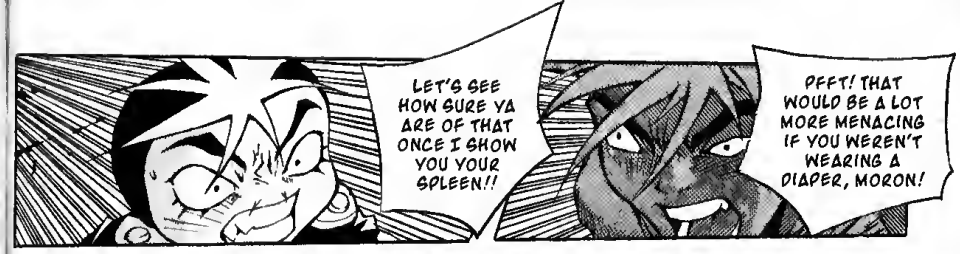
WHO AM I KIDDING...?
I BARELY HAVE ENOUGH STRENGTH TO LIFT THE BLADE!
MY ONLY HOPE IS TO CHANNEL ALL MY REMAINING ENERGY FOR...
SOMA!!
...A SINGLE DEATH BLOW!!

ALL THAT ENERGY... WHERE'D HE GET IT FROM?! WAS THIS WHAT HE WAS PLANNING ALL ALONG?!
NO MATTER! I'M PAST THE POINT OF NO RETURN!
LET'S SEE IF YOUR SINGLE DEATH BLOW CAN STOP MY MULTIPLE DEATH BLOW TECHNIQUE!!

SOMA!!

TOLD YOU! TOLD YOU!! LOOK AT 'IM!! HE AIN'T WORTHY!! I'M THE TRUE WIELDER OF THE BLADE!

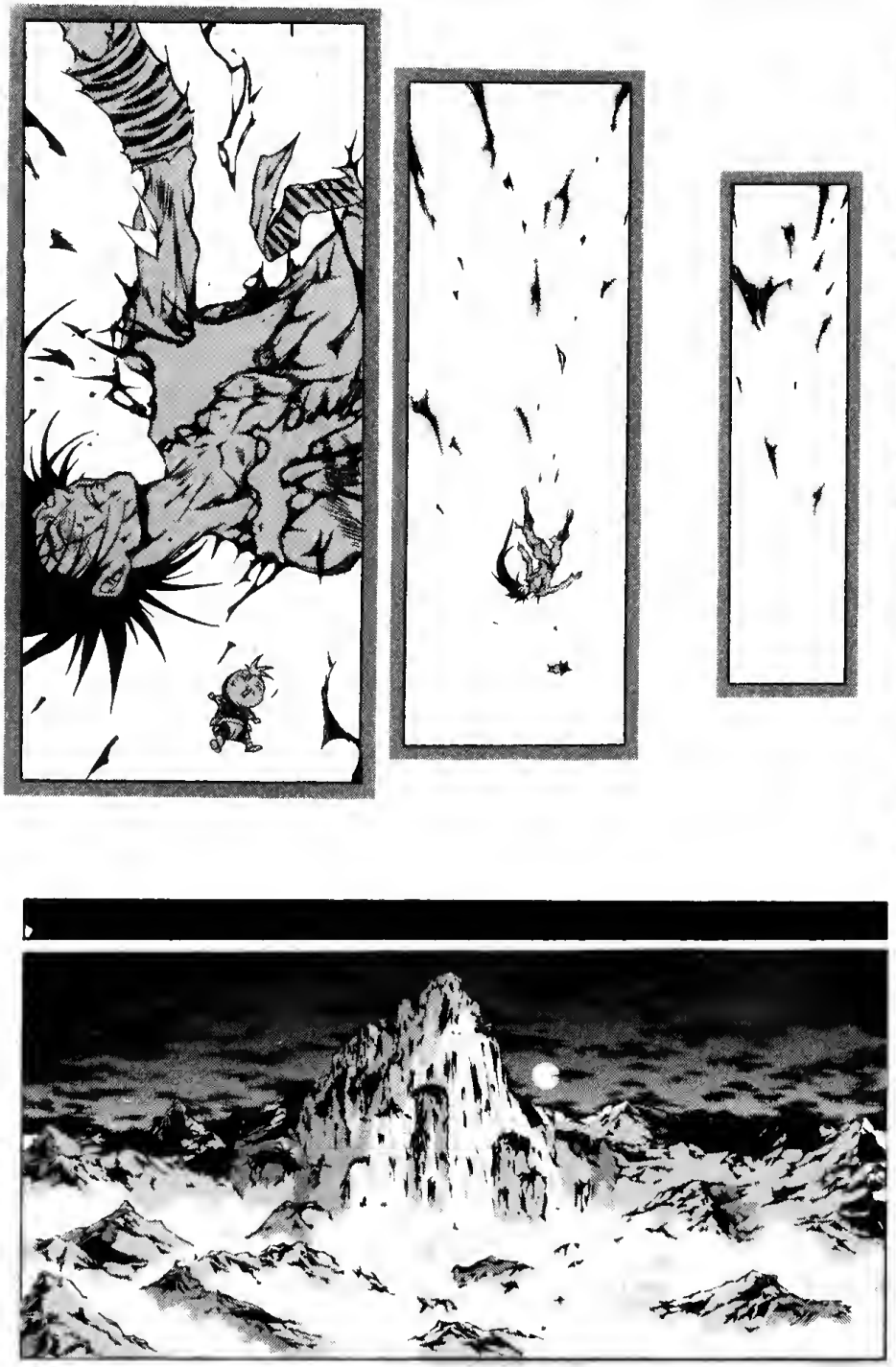

LET'S SEE HOW SURE YA ARE OF THAT ONCE I SHOW YOU YOUR SPLEEN!!
PFFT! THAT WOULD BE A LOT MORE MENACING IF YOU WEREN'T WEARING A DIAPER, MORON!

HOWEVER--IF YOUR PET MIDGET WANTS A TASTE OF DEATH--THEN I'M MORE THAT HAPPY TO SCRAPE SOME OFF MY PLATE!

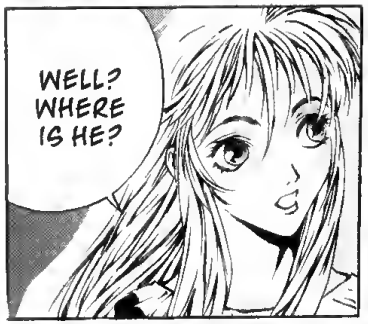
!

NO! NO MORE !!

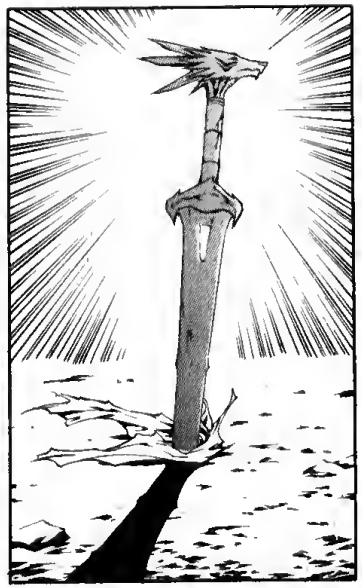
OH YES, MORE-- AND THEN SOME!!


I...I WON...
I KILLED HIM!
BWA HA HA!! THE BLADE IS MINE!
I TRULY AM THE WORLD'S GREATEST SWORDS-MAN!!

KAY...? WHERE'S SOMA?
OH CRAP.


WELL? WHERE IS HE?

UH...I... H-HE...



I SEE THE BLADE... BUT WHERE'S...?

키아악
끼아

Tap!

YOU WORTH-LESS CURS DARE TO GORGE YOURSELVES ON THE IMMACULATE FLESH OF DEMONS?

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OX
O

THIS SHALL NOT PASS.
I SEE YOU'VE KEPT YOURSELF ALIVE BY REGUSCITATING YOURSELF. LEAVE IT TO YOU, YIN, TO FIGHT TOOTH AND NAIL TO THE BITTER END.
B-BARU... BARU...
BARURUGO, YES. IT'S SO NICE OF YOU TO REMEMBER, YIN.
THAT WAS GOOGOO'S POWER... BUT...HE'S DEAD...
W-WHO... ARE... Y-YOU...?

BUT...YOU'RE DEAD!! THAT MORTAL USED THE BLADE OF HEAVEN TO K-KILL YOU!!
BUT IF THAT'S TRUE, HOW CAN YOU BE...?
ALIVE? STANDING OVER YOUR BROKEN BODY?
YOUR... YOUR FACE...!
WHO ARE YOU REALLY?!
BUT I TOLD YOU WHO I AM. I HAVE BEEN BORN AGAIN!
HE HAS MADE MY BODY STRONGER AND MORE POWERFUL THAN IT WAS BEFORE!
HE MADE YOU...? YOU MEAN MASTER MACHUNROO?
HA! OF COURSE NOT! THE MOMENT WE TRIED TO SEIZE THE BLADE, OUR ALLEGIANCE TO HIM WAS FORFEIT!

NAY... MACHUNROO WILL NOT SAVE US.
I-I... DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE P-PLANNING, BUT...IT'S ALREADY TOO LATE FOR ME!
TOO LATE FOR YOUR PHYSICAL BODY, YES. BUT FOR YOUR DEMON ENERGY...NOT SO MUCH.
ONLY THE TRUE MASTER AND THE LIBERATOR OF THE THREE REALMS WILL LIBERATE US! SOON, YOU, TOO WILL KNOW THE TRUTH AS I HAVE WITNESSED!
AH
ARISE, MY COMRADES! YOUR DEMON ENERGY WILL LIVE FOREVER... INSIDE ME!

BLADE OF HEAVEN

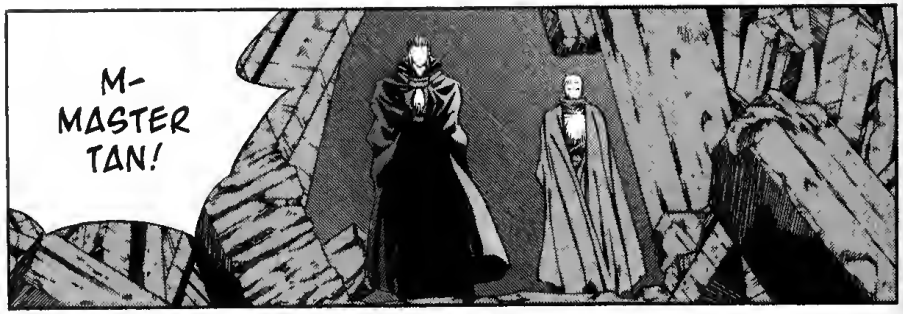
I REFUSE TO DIE!

NO MATTER HOW LOUDLY MY BROKEN BODY MAY PROTEST...!

ME DONG DONG...I MUSTN'T LEAVE ME DONG DONG BEHIND!

MY BELOVED DAUGHTER...

SOMA IS NOT DEAD!

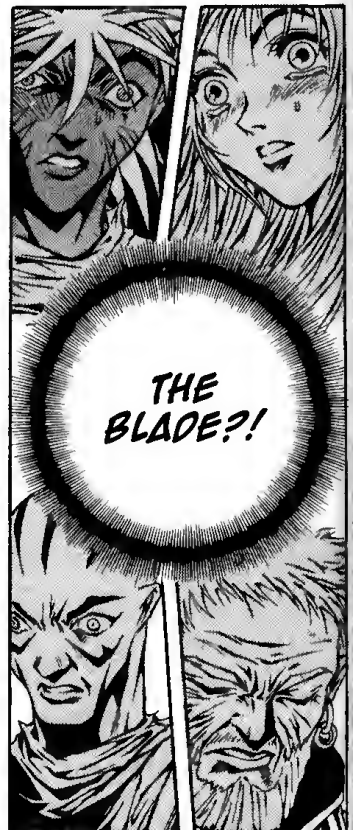

M-MASTER TAN!

WHAT... WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!
I'M POSITIVE I CUT HIM...!
THEN HE FELL OVER THE SIDE AND INTO THE WATER!

TRUE, HE PLUNGED INTO THE MURKY DEPTHS BELOW--BUT HIS LAST BREATH HAS NOT BEEN TAKEN!

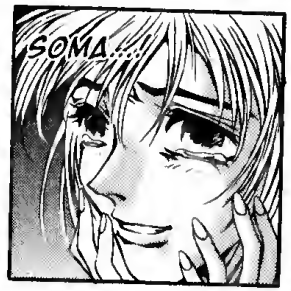
DON'T GIVE ME THAT BUNK!! THERE'S NO WAY THAT ANYONE COULD SURVIVE THOSE CURRENTS!!

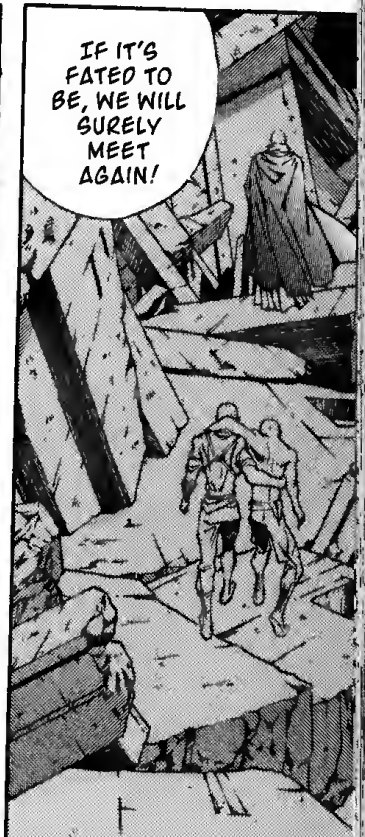
YOU MAY DENY MY WORDS...BUT YOU CAN'T DENY THE BLADE!

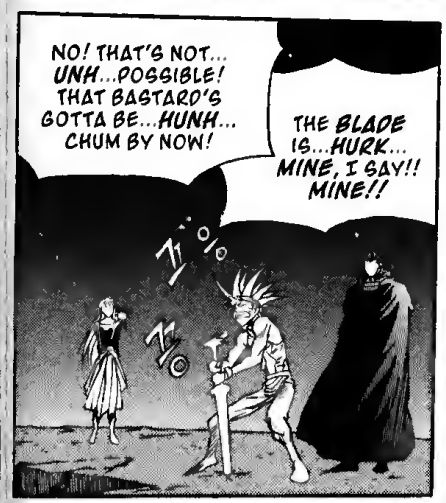

THE BLADE?!

THE BLADE DOES NOT CHOOSE ANOTHER OWNER UNTIL ITS CURRENT OWNER IS DEAD. IN SHORT...
...THE FACT THAT THIS SWORD CANNOT BE DISLODGED IMPLIES THAT SOMA IS STILL ALIVE.

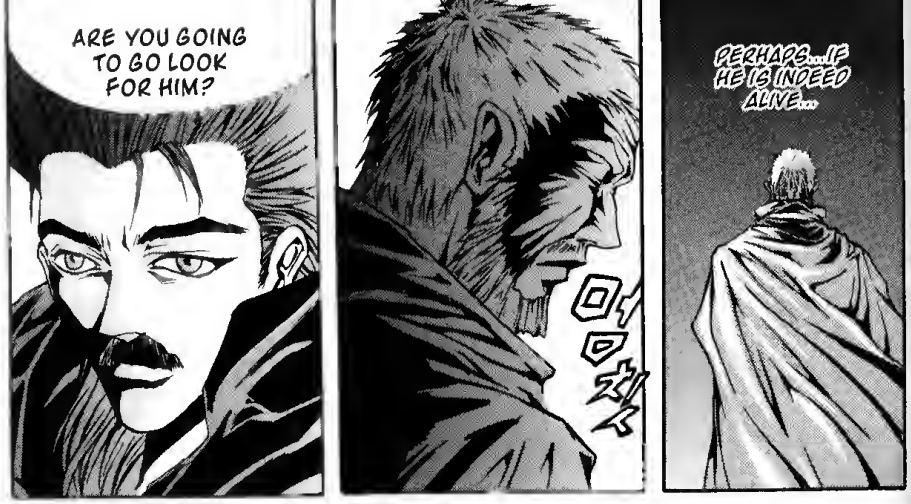
BUT...HE CAN'T BE...!

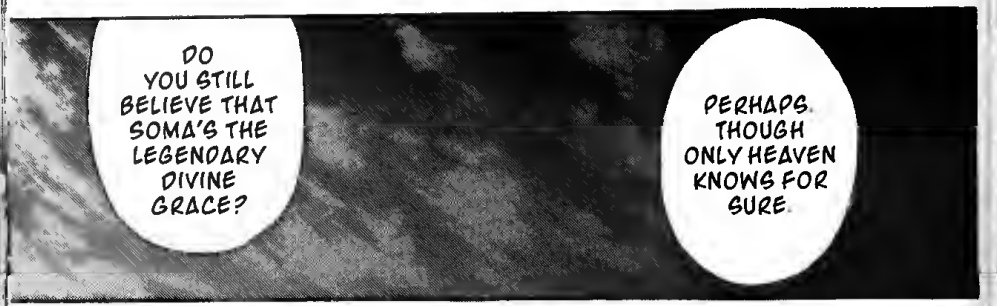

SOMA...!


IF IT'S FATED TO BE, WE WILL SURELY MEET AGAIN!


NO! THAT'S NOT... UNH...POSSIBLE! THAT BASTARD'S GOTTA BE...HUNH... CHUM BY NOW!
THE BLADE IS...HURK... MINE, I SAY!! MINE!!

WE SHALL TAKE OUR LEAVE, THEN.

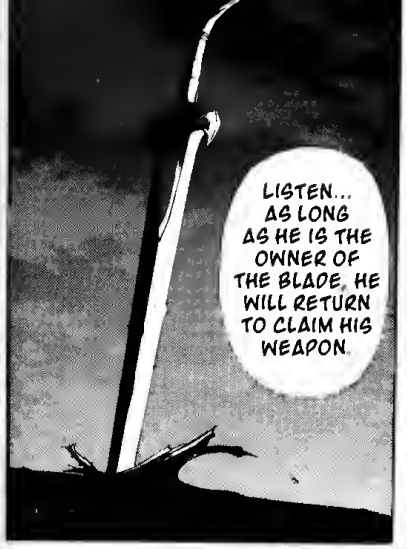

ARE YOU GOING TO GO LOOK FOR HIM?
PERHAPS...IF HE'S INDEED ALIVE...


DO YOU STILL BELIEVE THAT SOMA'S THE LEGENDARY DIVINE GRACE?
PERHAPS. THOUGH ONLY HEAVEN KNOWS FOR SURE.

AS HEAVEN'S HUMBLE SERVANT, ALL I CAN DO IS RESPOND TO WHAT'S PLACED IN FRONT OF ME.

WELL, IF HE IS STILL ALIVE, I'LL FIND HIM!! THERE'S ONLY ROOM FOR ONE OF US IN THIS REALM-- AND I WON'T STOP UNTIL HIS STILL BEATING HEART'S IN MY HANDS!!

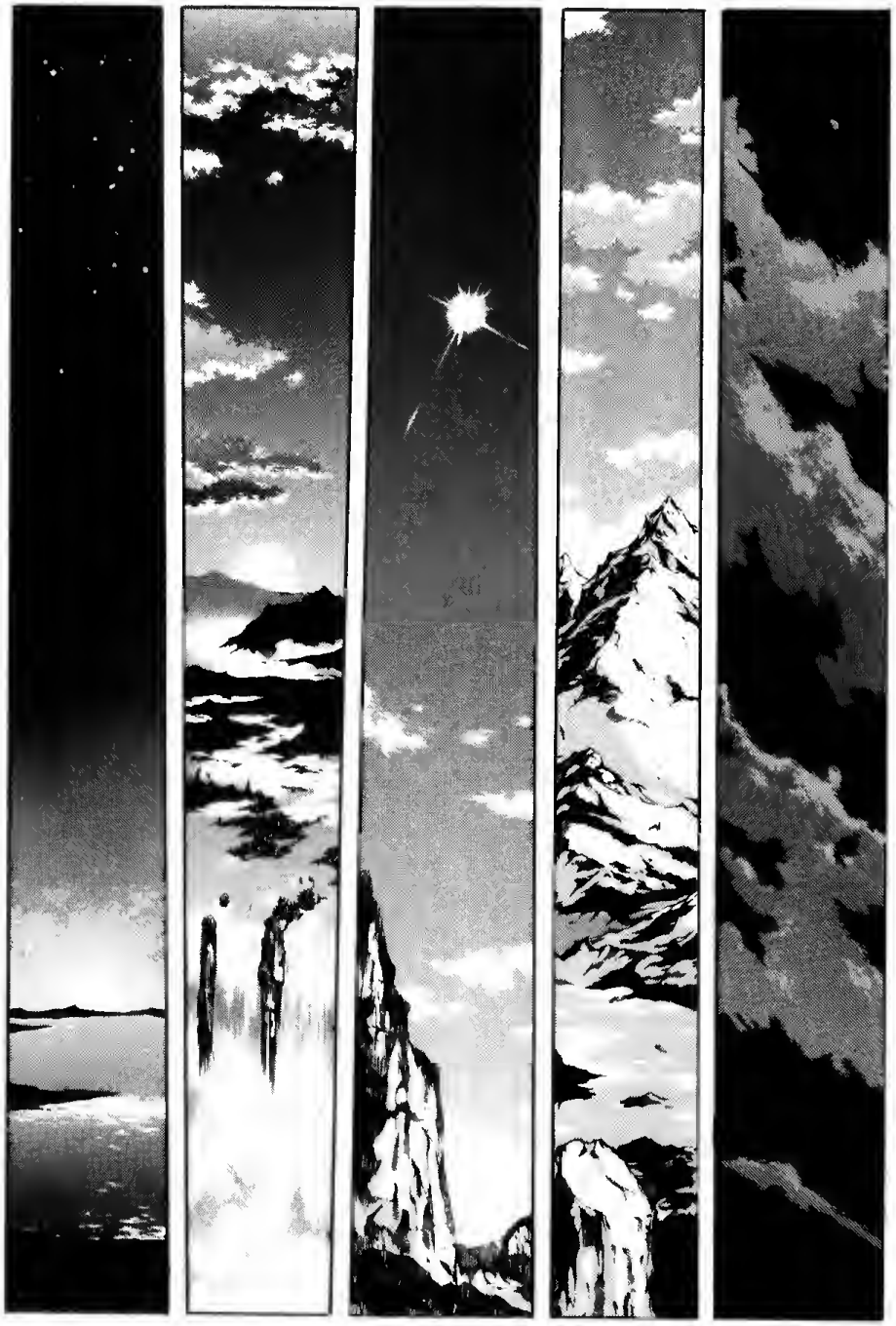
KAY...YOU REALLY NEED A GIRLFRIEND.


LISTEN... AS LONG AS HE IS THE OWNER OF THE BLADE, HE WILL RETURN TO CLAIM HIS WEAPON.

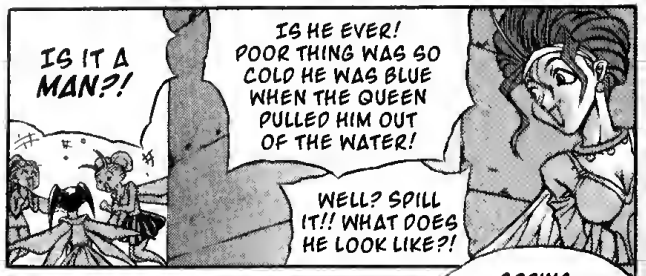
HE CAN NO MORE ESCAPE HIS FATE THAN A FISH CAN ESCAPE THE SEA.

SOMA...WHENEVER YOU DO RETURN...
...YOU'LL FIND ME WAITING!

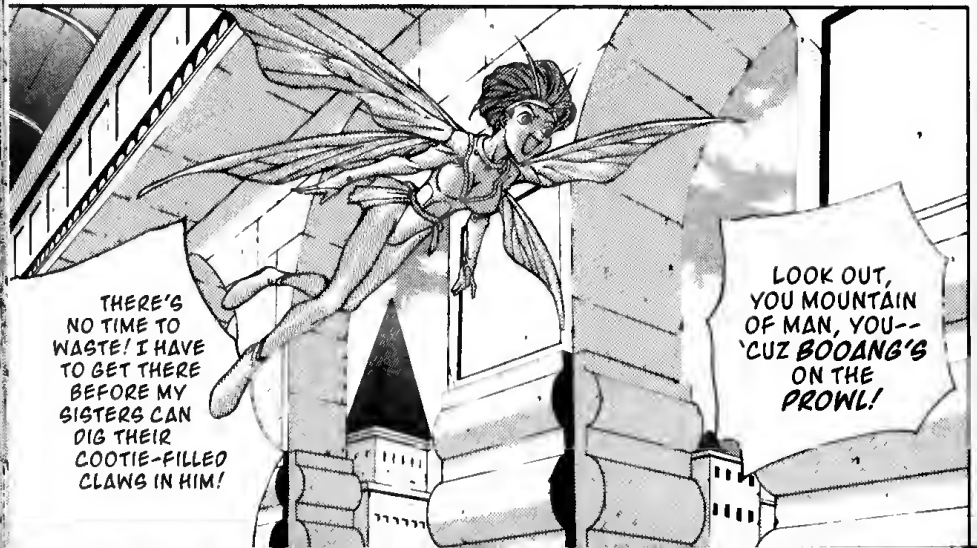
NO MATTER HOW LONG IT TAKES...I WILL SEE YOU AGAIN! THIS I SWEAR!

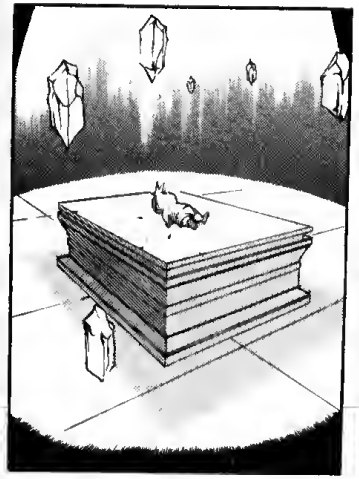


OH! A GALLANT PRINCE ON A WHITE STEED!!


IS IT A MAN?!
IS HE EVER! POOR THING WAS SO COLD HE WAS BLUE WHEN THE QUEEN PULLED HIM OUT OF THE WATER!
WELL? SPILL IT!! WHAT DOES HE LOOK LIKE?!

WELL, I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM YET... BUT JUDGING BY HOW ALL THE HIGHER-UPS ARE KEEPING IT ALL HUSH-HUSH, HE MUST BE GORGEOUS!
SPRING HAS ARRIVED AND LOVE IS IN THE AIR!
MY OH MY!


THERE'S NO TIME TO WASTE! I HAVE TO GET THERE BEFORE MY SISTERS CAN DIG THEIR COOTIE-FILLED CLAWS IN HIM!
LOOK OUT, YOU MOUNTAIN OF MAN, YOU-- 'CUZ BOOANG'S ON THE PROWL!



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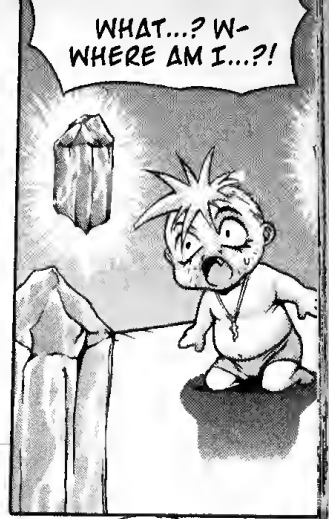
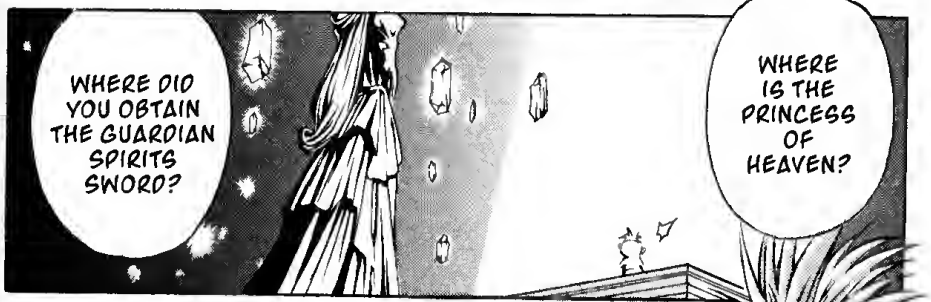
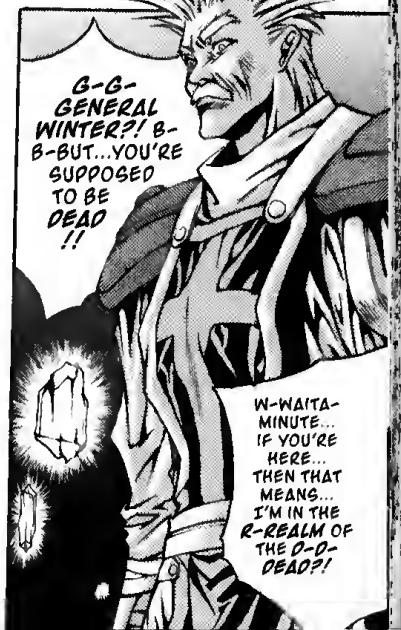
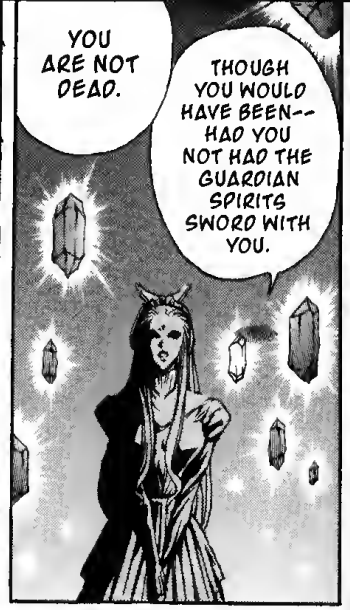

WHAT...? W-WHERE AM I...?!

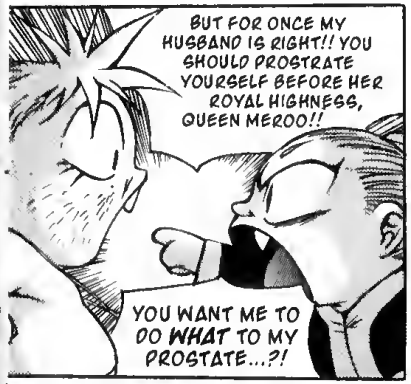

WHERE DID YOU OBTAIN THE GUARDIAN SPIRITS SWORD?
WHERE IS THE PRINCESS OF HEAVEN?

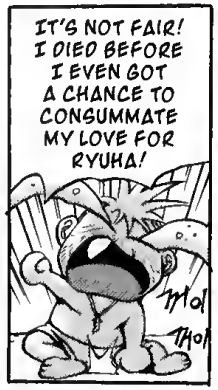
LADY, THE ONLY "WHERE" QUESTION THAT NEEDS ANSWERIN' IS WHERE THE HECK ARE MY PANTS?!

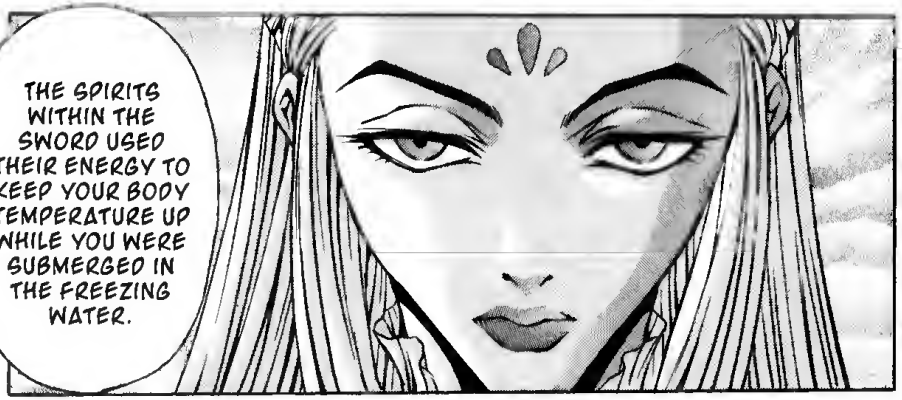
WHY YOU FORKED-TONGUED SCALLYWAG! YOU DARE DEMAND ANYTHING FROM HER HIGHNESS?!
WHO THE--?!

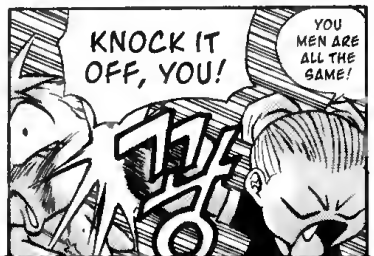

G-G-GENERAL WINTER?! B-B-BUT...YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE DEAD!!
W-WAITA-MINUTE... IF YOU'RE HERE... THEN THAT MEANS... I'M IN THE R-REALM OF THE D-D-DEAD?!

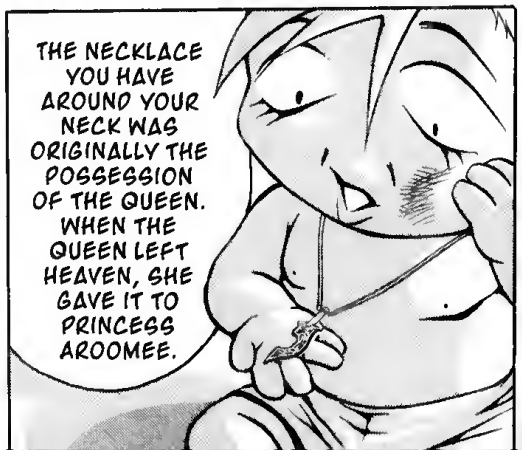


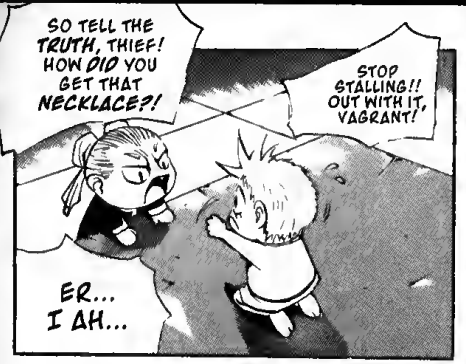




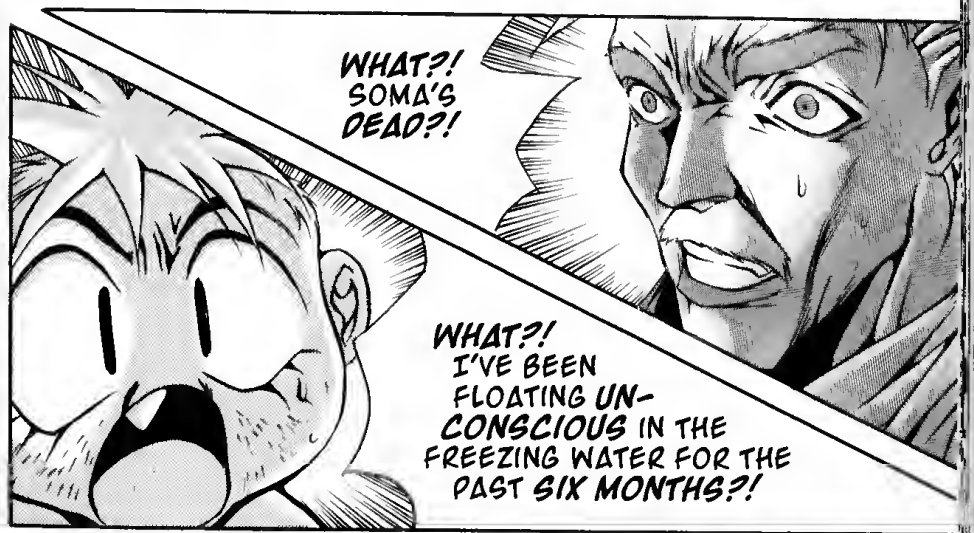


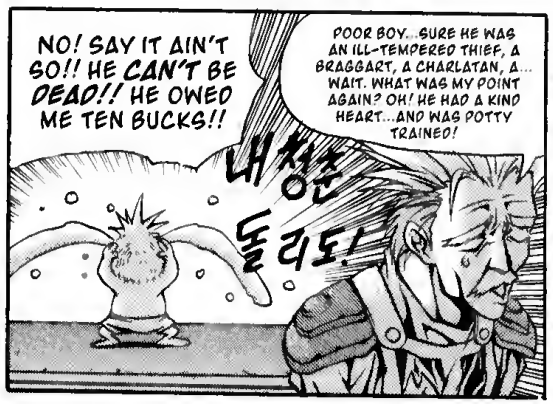




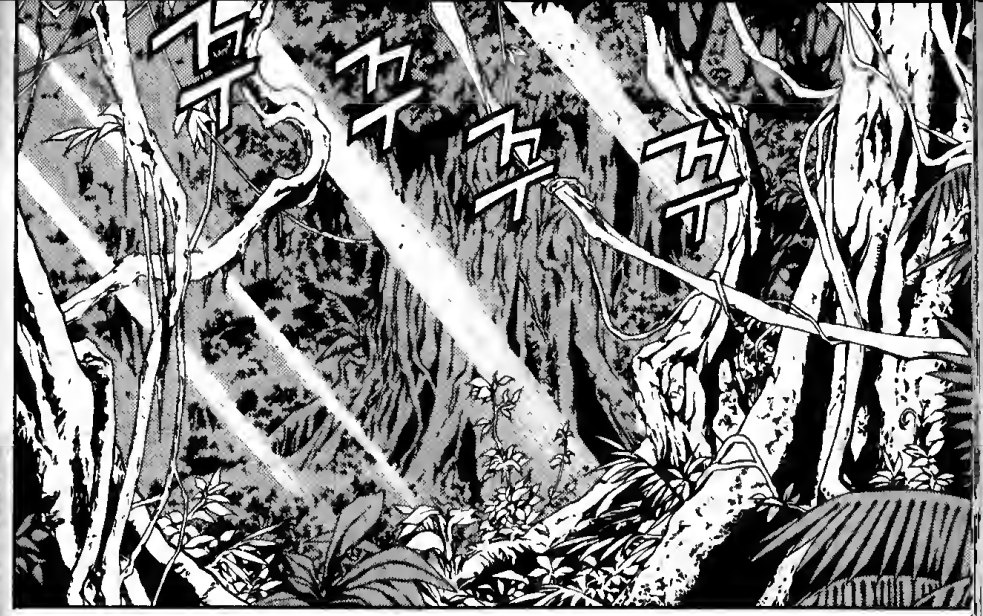


The last blaw Koy delivered to Sama knacked both him and Fat Ninja aver a cliff edge and inta the icy woter belaw. Because he wos weoring the sward, the sauls in the Guordion Spirits Sward protected Fot Ninja. However, since the true owner af the sward is Queen Meroo, the spirits instinctively guided Fat Ninja's unconscious body tawards the Queen's locotion.





WE CAN NO LONGER ABIDE IN SILENCE.
IT IS TIME FOR US TO STRIKE BACK!
YOU THERE! FOUL-SMELLING SERVANT-BOY!
TAKE ME TO THE RESCUED HUNK OF A MAN AT ONCE!
?



Plip!
Squirt!
O'OH!
끼익
끄르

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THE MASTER'S BECKONING ME!

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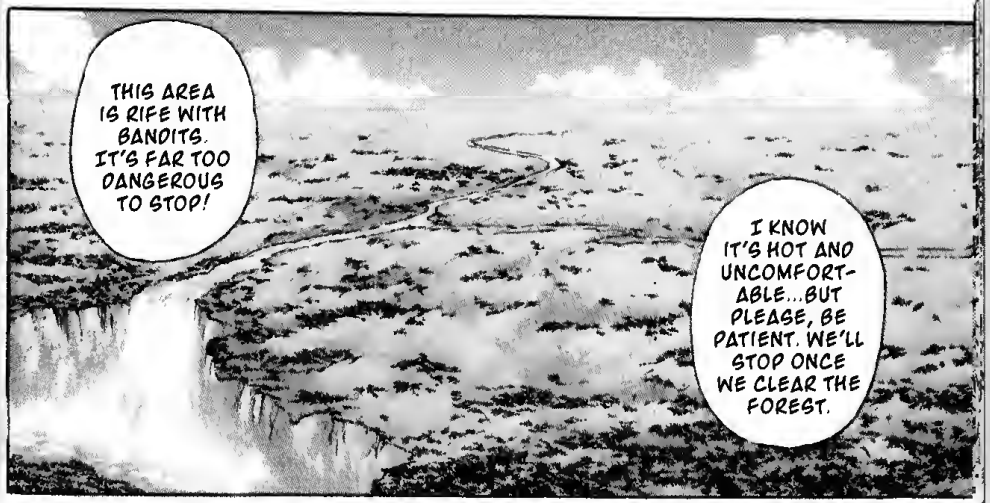
YOU MUST BE EXHAUSTED IN THIS HEAT. PLEASE...REST FOR A WHILE.

I'M AFRAID WE CANNOT DO THAT, MASTER.


THIS AREA IS RIFE WITH BANDITS. IT'S FAR TOO DANGEROUS TO STOP!
I KNOW IT'S HOT AND UNCOMFORTABLE...BUT PLEASE, BE PATIENT. WE'LL STOP ONCE WE CLEAR THE FOREST.

I...I'M FINE! BUT...IS IT TRUE THAT BANDITS IN THIS AREA...

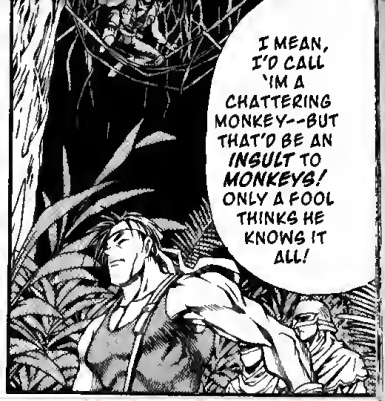
...ARE CANNIBALS?
딸랑

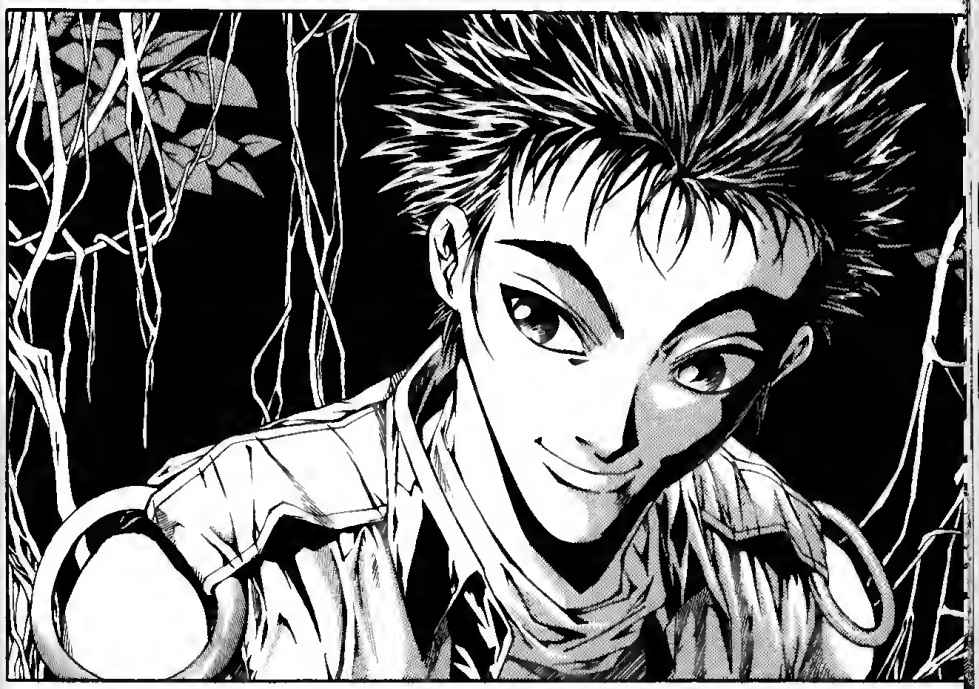
FIDDLE-STICKS! DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, MASTER!

AS LONG AS I HAVE MY WEAPONS, NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO SO MUCH AS BREATHE ON YOUR PRECIOUS SKIN!
BESIDES-- BECAUSE OF YOUR BRILLIANT DECOY PLAN, THOSE DUMB BANDITS PROBABLY FOLLOWED THE WRONG PALANQUIN, ANYWAY!

FOOL! KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN!
딸랑 딸랑 딸랑
OOP! S-SORRY..!

JEEZ... IF BRAINS WERE ROCKS, THIS GUY'D BE LIGHTER THAN AIR!


I MEAN, I'D CALL 'IM A CHATTERING MONKEY--BUT THAT'D BE AN INSULT TO MONKEYS! ONLY A FOOL THINKS HE KNOWS IT ALL!



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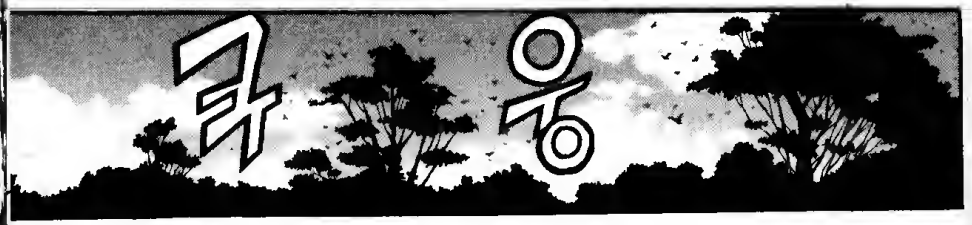
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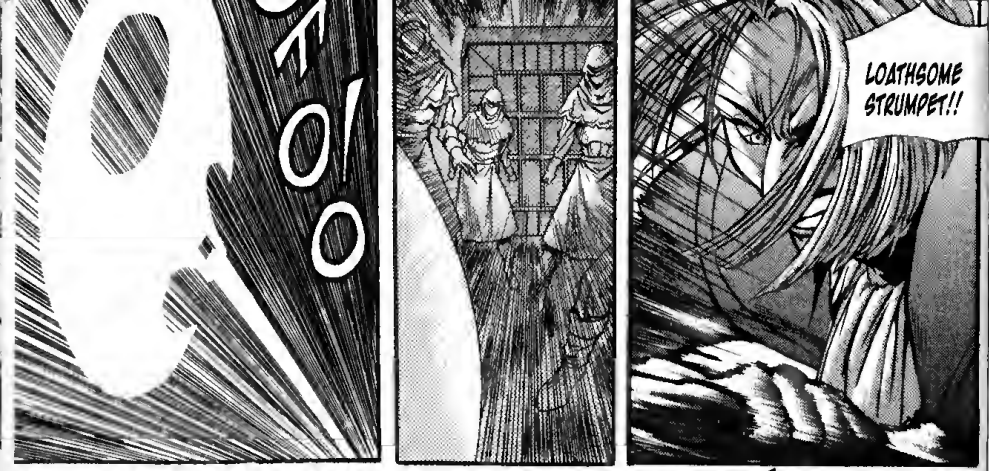
THAT TREE'S BLOCKING THE ROAD! IT MUST BE CLEARED AWAY AT ONC--

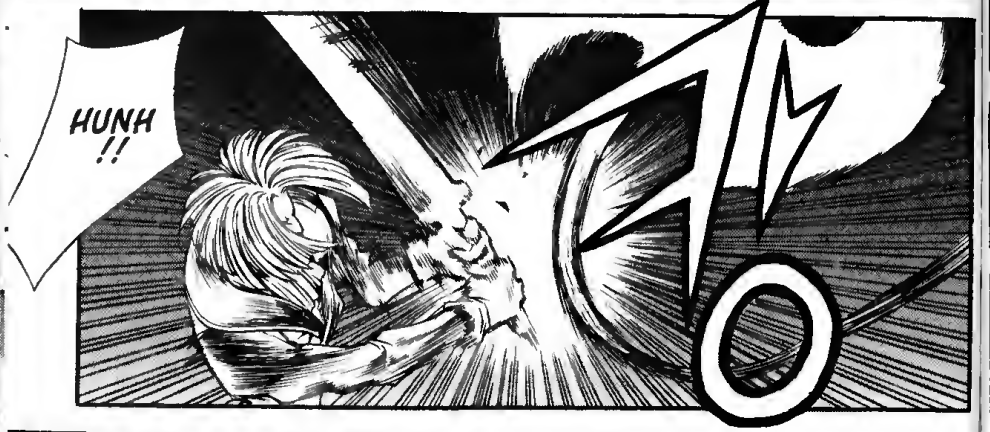
HUH...? WHAT THE--?!

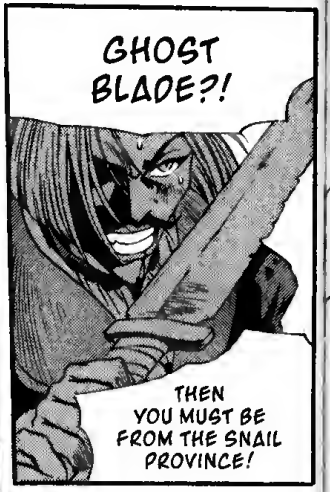
WHO THE DEVIL ARE YOU?!

DO YOU NOT SEE THE FLAG OF THE CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE MILITARY?! REMOVE THAT TREE FROM OUR PATH IMMEDIATELY!!
INSOLENT WENCH!
윽
!

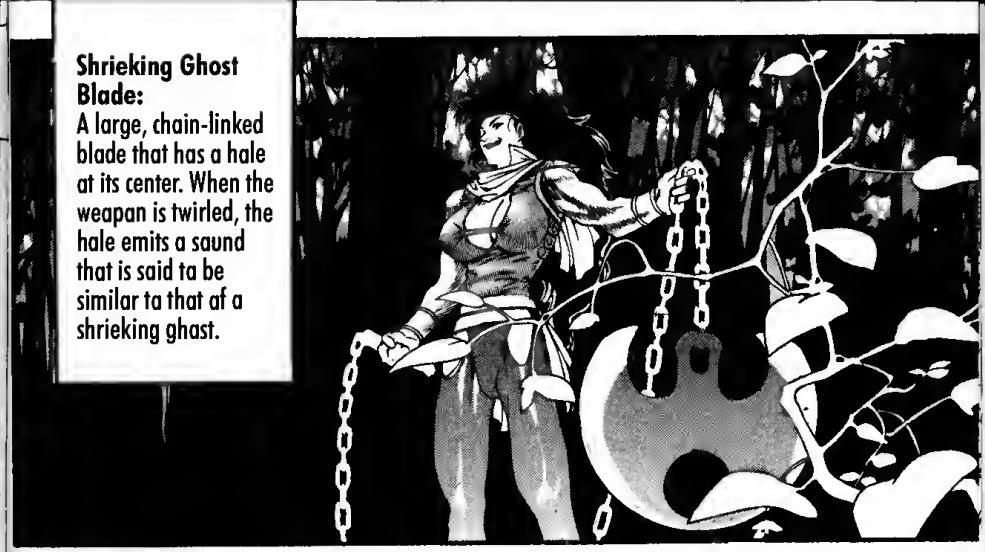
NEVER FAILS... JUST WHEN SLEEP'S GETTIN' GOOD, SOME GNAT BUZZES IN MY EAR!
SO FRUSTRATING.
THAT'S IT! GET HER!
"GET HER"? "GET HER"?! THAT'S THE BEST RETORT YOUR FEEBLE BRAINS CAN MUSTER?!
SIGH... IT'S SOO HARD FOR A WOMAN TO FIND A MAN WITH STIMULATING CONVERSATION THESE DAYS!
Y-YOU...YOU... SHE-DEVIL! YOUR NAME! I DEMAND TO KNOW IT!!
MY NAME...?
WHY, MY NAME IS WOMAN-- NOW HEAR ME ROAR!!



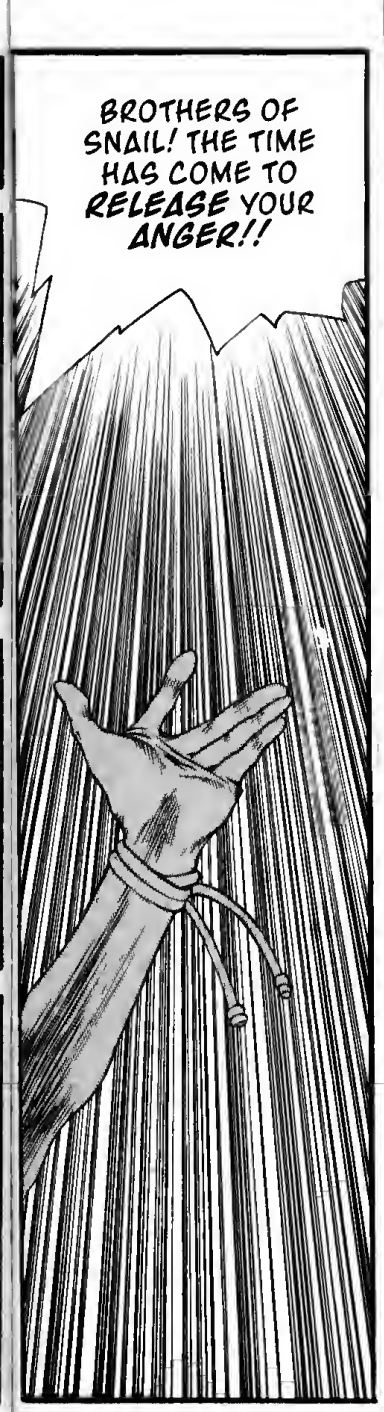


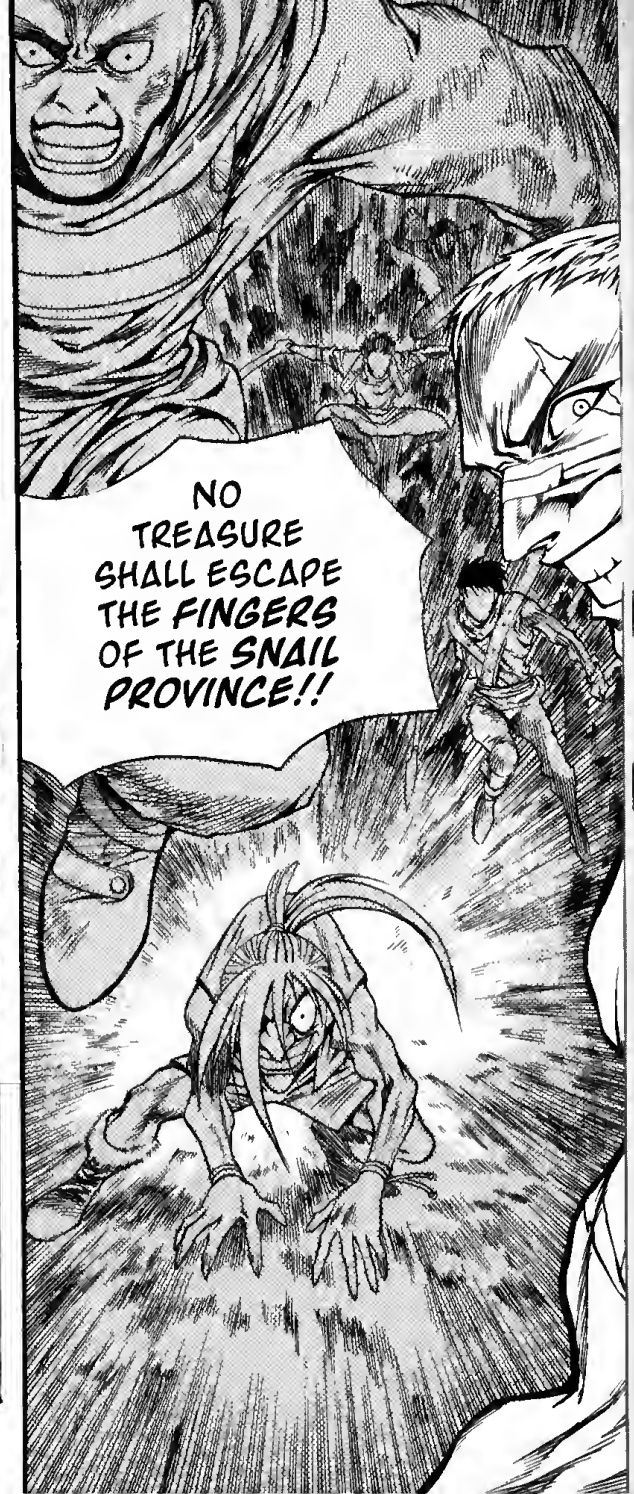


Shrieking Ghost Blade:
A large, chain-linked blade that has a hale at its center. When the weapan is twirled, the hale emits a saund that is said ta be similar ta that af a shrieking ghast.



LOOK OUT!! SLEEPING GAS!!
EVERYONE, HOLD YOUR BREATH!!
HEH HEH... YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY...
...THOSE WHO SMELT IT, DEALT IT!
YOU... BASTARDS...!
YOU WON'T GET OUT OF HERE ALIVE! NOT AS LONG AS THERE'S A SINGLE DROP OF BLOOD IN MY VEINS!
WELL, THEN... I GUESS WE'LL JUST HAVE TO MAKE SURE WE DRAIN YOU GOOD AND PROPER, WON'T WE?!


BROTHERS OF SNAIL! THE TIME HAS COME TO RELEASE YOUR ANGER!!


NO TREASURE SHALL ESCAPE THE FINGERS OF THE SNAIL PROVINCE!!

HEH HEH... THINGS ARE GOING JUST AS I PLANNED.
GLAAH!!
THE TREASURE IS AS GOOD AS MINE!

YEP... I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME I INTRODUCED MYSELF...

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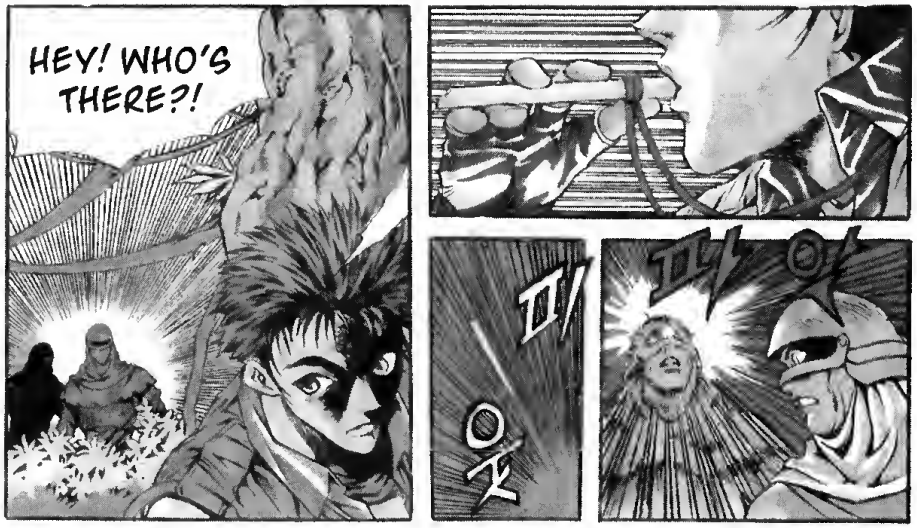
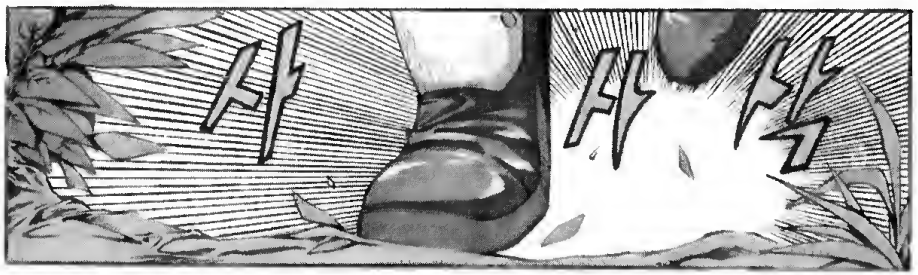
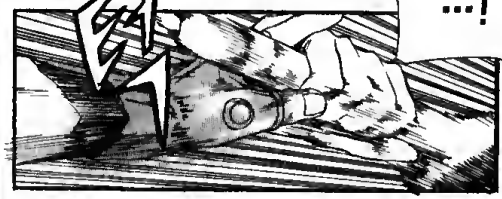
PLEASANT DREAMS, LOSER.


HEY! WHO'S THERE?!

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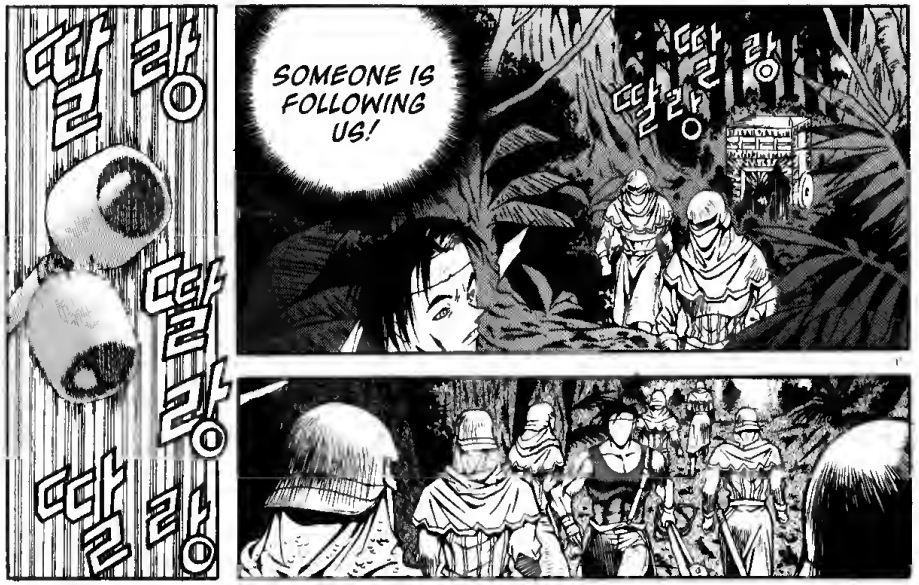
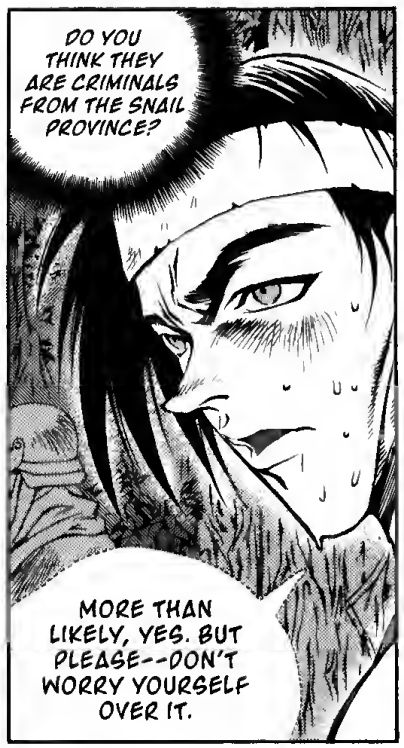
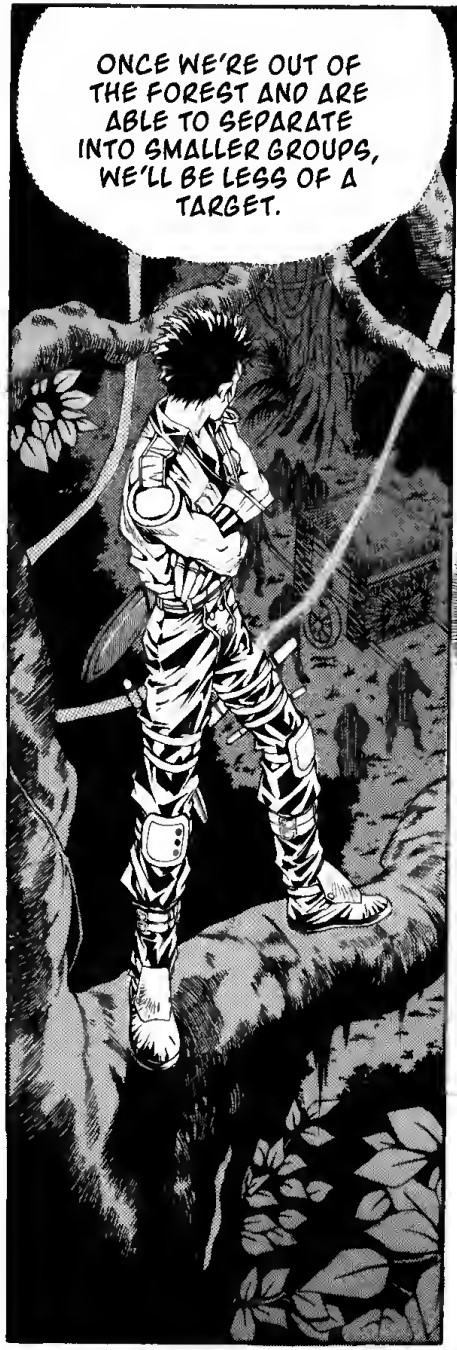

SOMEONE IS FOLLOWING US!

I KNOW, MASTER.
I'VE BEEN TRYING TO LURE HIM OUT... BUT HE HIDES WHENEVER I GET TOO CLOSE.


DO YOU THINK THEY ARE CRIMINALS FROM THE SNAIL PROVINCE?
MORE THAN LIKELY, YES. BUT PLEASE--DON'T WORRY YOURSELF OVER IT.


ONCE WE'RE OUT OF THE FOREST AND ARE ABLE TO SEPARATE INTO SMALLER GROUPS, WE'LL BE LESS OF A TARGET.

NO, YOU MUSTN'T DO THAT! THAT IS EXACTLY WHAT OUR ENEMIES WANT US TO DO!!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN...? I DON'T--

IT'S TRUE-- IN SMALLER GROUPS, WE'LL BE ABLE TO MOVE FASTER.
HOWEVER-- THAT ALSO MEANS EACH GROUP CAN BE EASILY OVER-WHELMED!
THE ODDS OF OUR SURVIVAL ARE BETTER IF WE STICK TOGETHER!

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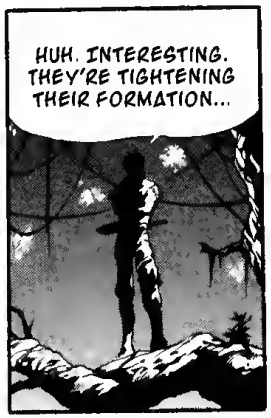
HUH. INTERESTING. THEY'RE TIGHTENING THEIR FORMATION...

WELL SHUCK MY CORN...! YOU LITTLE RASCALS FIGURED OUT WHAT I WAS THINKING...
WELL...IF THAT'S THE CASE...

WHY DON'T YOU SAVE YOURSELVES SOME PAIN AND JUST HAND OVER THE BOOTY!!

AH
OK

CAREFUL, YOU DOLTS! GO EASY WITH THOSE WEAPONS, WILL YOU?!
THE TREASURE'S WORTHLESS IF IT'S BLOWN TO BITS!!

WUH...? IT'S EMPTY?!
WE'VE BEEN TRICKED! THERE'S NO TREASURE, HERE!!
YOU SONOF--!! IF YOU DON'T SHOW ME WHERE YOU'VE HIDDEN THE TREASURE, I'LL SHOVE YOUR MUSTACHE WHERE THE SUN DON'T SHINE!!
HEY! WAKE UP, YA PRISSY POOF!
ERM...IT'S POINTLESS TO TRY AND WAKE HIM UP. MY SLEEPING GAS'LL HAVE 'IM OUT COLD FOR THE NEXT 999 DAYS!
I JUST DON'T GET IT... ACCORDING TO SACHUNSA, THIS PALANQUIN IS SUPPOSED TO BE CARRYING A GREAT TREASURE...
SACHUNSA! THAT'S IT!

DAMMIT! WE'VE BEEN TRICKED!!
TRICK-ED...? HOW...?
THAT LITTLE STOOL SAMPLE SENT US ON A WILD GOOSE CHASE-- SO HE COULD HAVE THE REAL LOOT ALL TO HIMSELF!!
C'MON!! WE HAVE TO CATCH HIM BEFORE HE GETS AWAY WITH IT!!
SACHUNSA, YOU LITTLE SLIME! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS!!

AS SOON AS WE CROSS THIS BRIDGE WE'LL BE SAFE! I JUST WISH I KNEW WHERE HE'S HIDING ...
SIR...THE SCOUTS ARE SIGNALING THAT ALL'S CLEA--
HE'S HERE!!
THERE HE IS!! WATCH OUT!!
IT'S LIKE THE CALM BEFORE THE STORM...
끼끼끼끼
IT'S...ER... IT'S...UM... DAMN. OUT OF METAPHORS. NO MATTER.
삐끼삐끼
IT'S QUIET...TOO QUIET!

AT YOUR FEET! HE'S COMING OUT OF THE GROU--UNH!!
KA
OOH
OF
WH

II
YOU'RE GONNA RUE THE DAY YOU CROSSED ME, SCUM!! WHICH IS ONLY GONNA BE A FEW SECONDS FROM NOW--RIGHT BEFORE I CAVE YOUR SKULL IN!!
THIS AIN'T A STARING CONTEST, SOLDIER! MOVE OUT OF THE WAY!!
KA
OOF

YOU SLIPPERY LITTLE--!!
WHAT'S YOUR NAME, BOY?! I DEMAND TO KNOW!!
ME? WHY, I'M ONE OF THE SNAIL PROVINCE'S FINEST. THEY CALL ME SACHUNSA-- CHILD OF WIND AND CLOUDS!

AND LET ME JUST SAY--YOU BOYS HAVE DONE A BANG-UP JOB WITH BRINGING THE TREASURE ALL THIS WAY FOR ME.
HOWEVER, FROM HERE ON, YOUR SERVICES WILL NO LONGER BE REQUIRED.
YOU DARE MOCK ME?!

INVINCIBLE ATTACK!!
EASY, GUY! LOOK, IF YOU WANT A TIP, THEN JUST ASK FOR IT...!

SHUT YOUR FILTHY MOUTH!!

LOOK...IF YOU KEEP UP THIS BEHAVIOR...
...I'LL HAVE TO REPORT YOU TO YOUR CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER!

LET'S SEE YOU TALK WITH A BLOODY STUMP FOR A TONGUE!

WHOA, PAL! YOU REALLY HAVEN'T THOUGHT THIS THROUGH, HAVE YOU?!

BY YOU WILDLY SWINGING YOUR RUSTY SWORD AROUND LIKE A NUTCASE, NOT ONLY ARE YOU KEEPING YOUR MATES FROM HELPING YOU, BUT YOU'RE ENDANGERING US ALL!!

HOWEVER, THE REAL DANGER HERE IS THE WOODEN BRIDGE!
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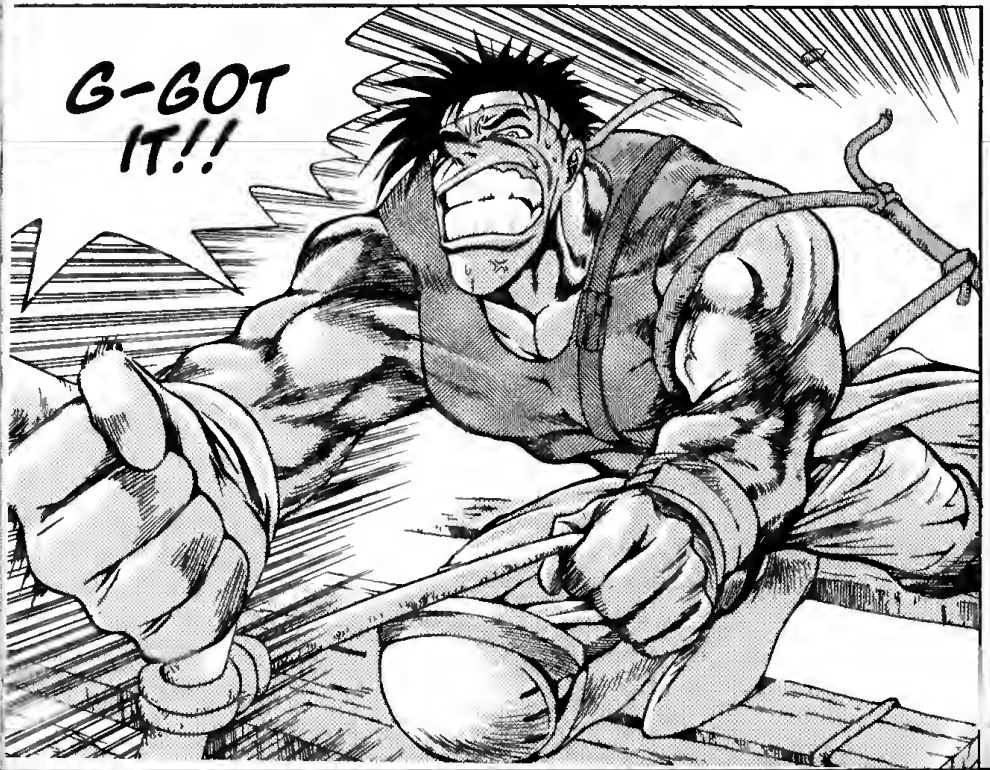
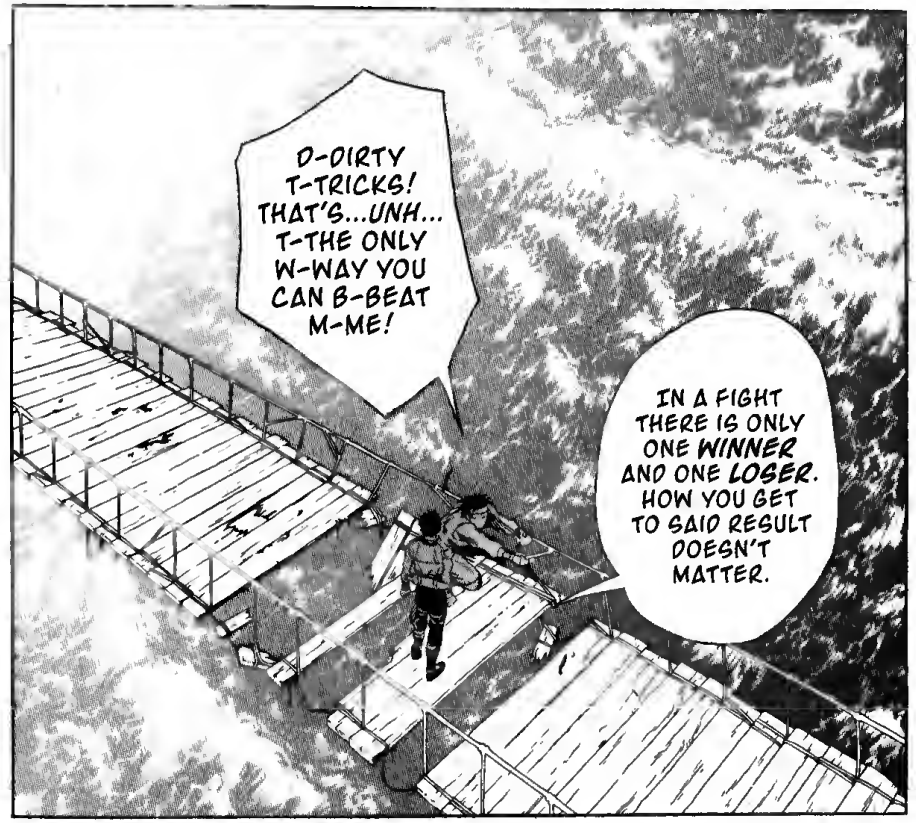
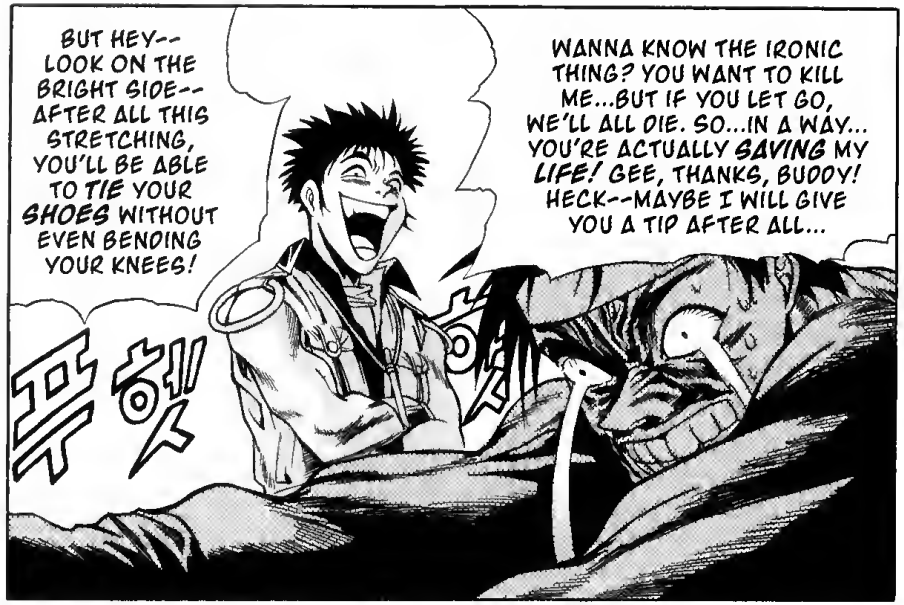
NO!! THE BRIDGE!!
LOOK OUT!! THE BRIDGE IS BREAKING !!


G-GOT IT!!

TSK, TSK... HATE TO SAY I TOLD YA SO...WAIT NO I DON'T...! I LOVE TO SAY IT! TOLD YA SO!
ㅋㅋㅋㅋ
THIS RICKETY THING WAS ALREADY KEPT TOGETHER BY TERMITES HOLDING HANDS... BUT YOU JUST HAD TO SWING YOUR CLUB, DIDN'T YOU, YOU CAVEMAN YOU...!


D-DIRTY T-TRICKS! THAT'S...UNH... T-THE ONLY W-WAY YOU CAN B-BEAT M-ME!
IN A FIGHT THERE IS ONLY ONE WINNER AND ONE LOSER. HOW YOU GET TO SAID RESULT DOESN'T MATTER.


BUT HEY-- LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE-- AFTER ALL THIS STRETCHING, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO *TIE* YOUR *SHOES* WITHOUT EVEN BENDING YOUR KNEES!
WANNA KNOW THE IRONIC THING? YOU WANT TO KILL ME...BUT IF YOU LET GO, WE'LL ALL DIE. SO...IN A WAY... YOU'RE ACTUALLY *SAVING* MY *LIFE!* GEE, THANKS, BUDDY! HECK--MAYBE I WILL GIVE YOU A TIP AFTER ALL...
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NOW THAT'S JUST RUDE! DIDN'T I TELL YOU KIDS ABOUT INTERRUPTING DADDY WHEN HE'S TALKING?!

BESIDES-- THERE'S NO NEED FOR YOU GIRLS TO RUSH TO YOUR DEATHS! NOT WHEN I INTEND TO SEND YOU *ALL* OFF IN ONE *GREAT SWOOP!*

HE CAN'T TAKE US ALL ON!! RUSH HIM!!

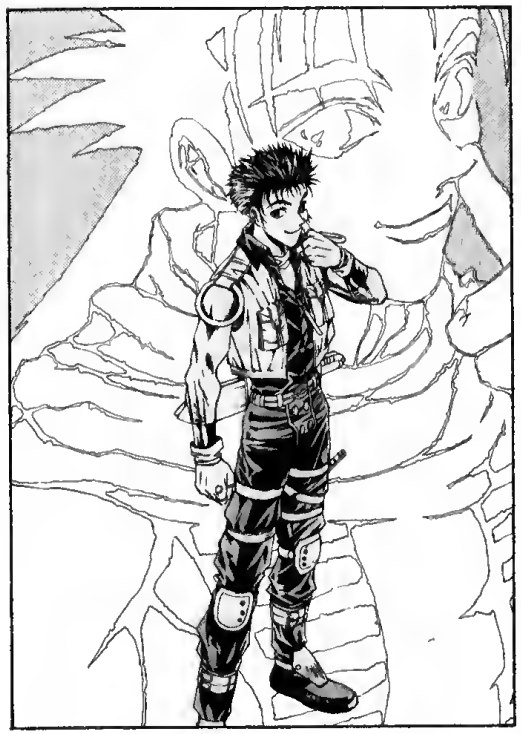
YEAH..."RUSH ME!" CUZ WE'VE ALL SEEN HOW WELL THAT WENT OVER BEFORE, RIGHT?!
H-HE'S TOO FAST...!!

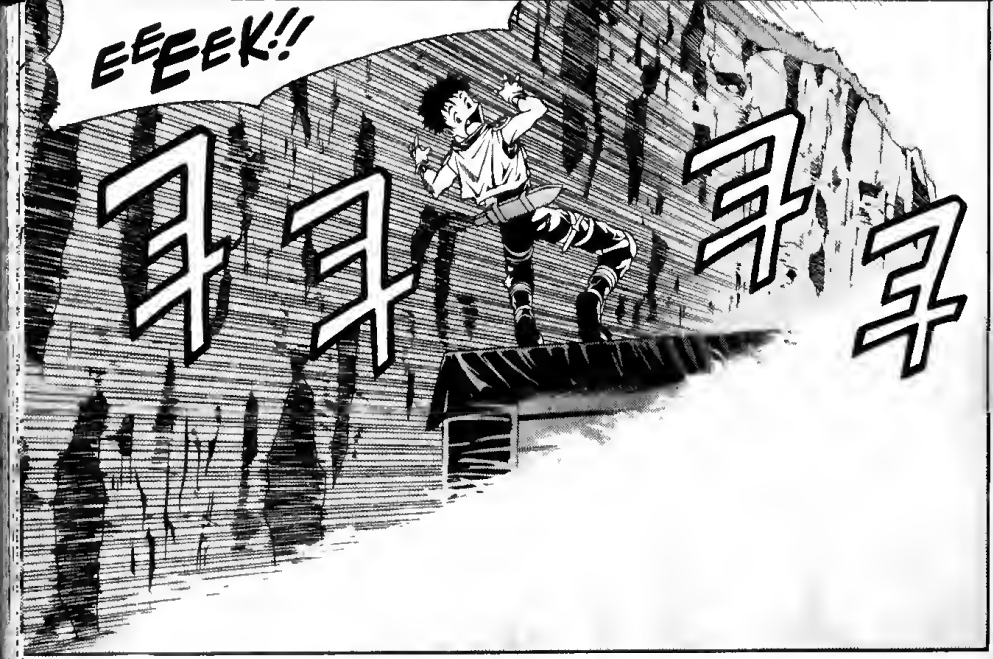
AND DON'T FORGET-- I'M ALSO TOO STRONG...
...TOO LETHAL...
...TOO HANDSOME!
LOOK! THERE'RE MORE CUTTHROATS COMING!

SACHUNSA!! I'M GONNA TEAR YOU LIMB FROM LIMB, YOU LYING CUR!!
A-AW... G-G-G-GREAT...!!
THAT TREASURE'S OURS, TRAITOR!!
WELL, IF IT ISN'T MY FAVORITE SHE-MALE...! SHE FIGURED IT OUT A LOT QUICKER THAN I'D EXPECTED!
ATTACK THOSE THIEVES FROM THE SNAIL PROVINCE!!
GET BACK, YOU DOLTS! THERE'S TOO MUCH WEIGHT ON THE BRIDGE!!
GYAK!!

I KNOW..! I'LL JUST LIGHTEN THE LOAD...!
NO! THE PALANQUIN!!
M-MASTER!!
LATER, GATORS!! YOU PLAY NICE, NOW!!
BASTARD!!

BLADE OF HEAVEN




EEEEK!!
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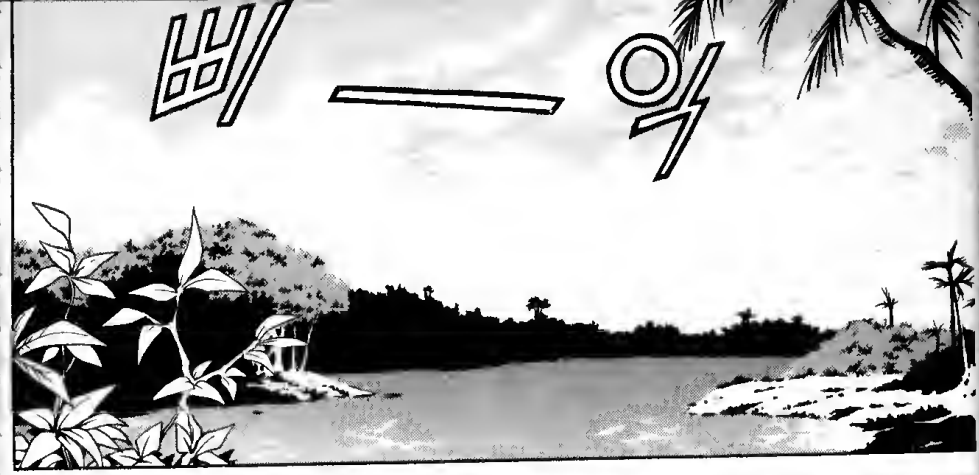
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WAAAH !!
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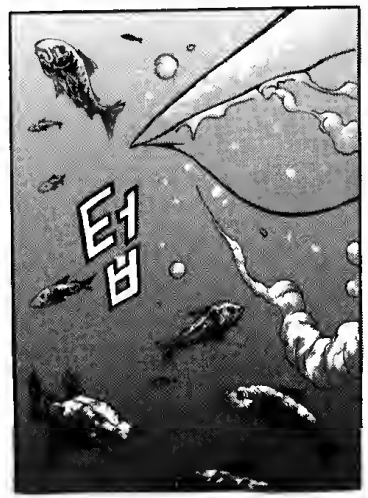
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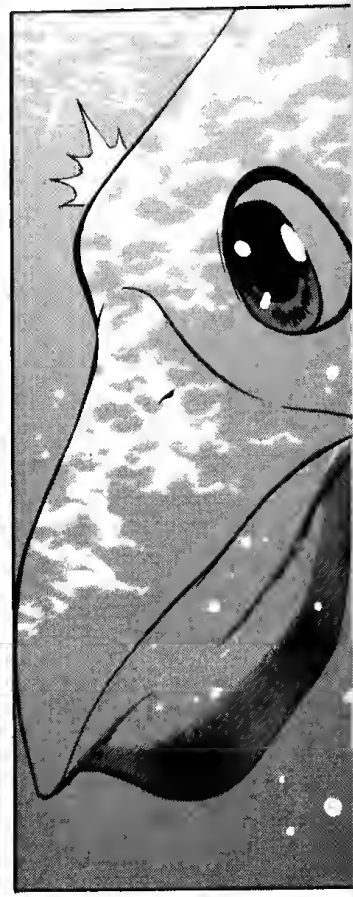

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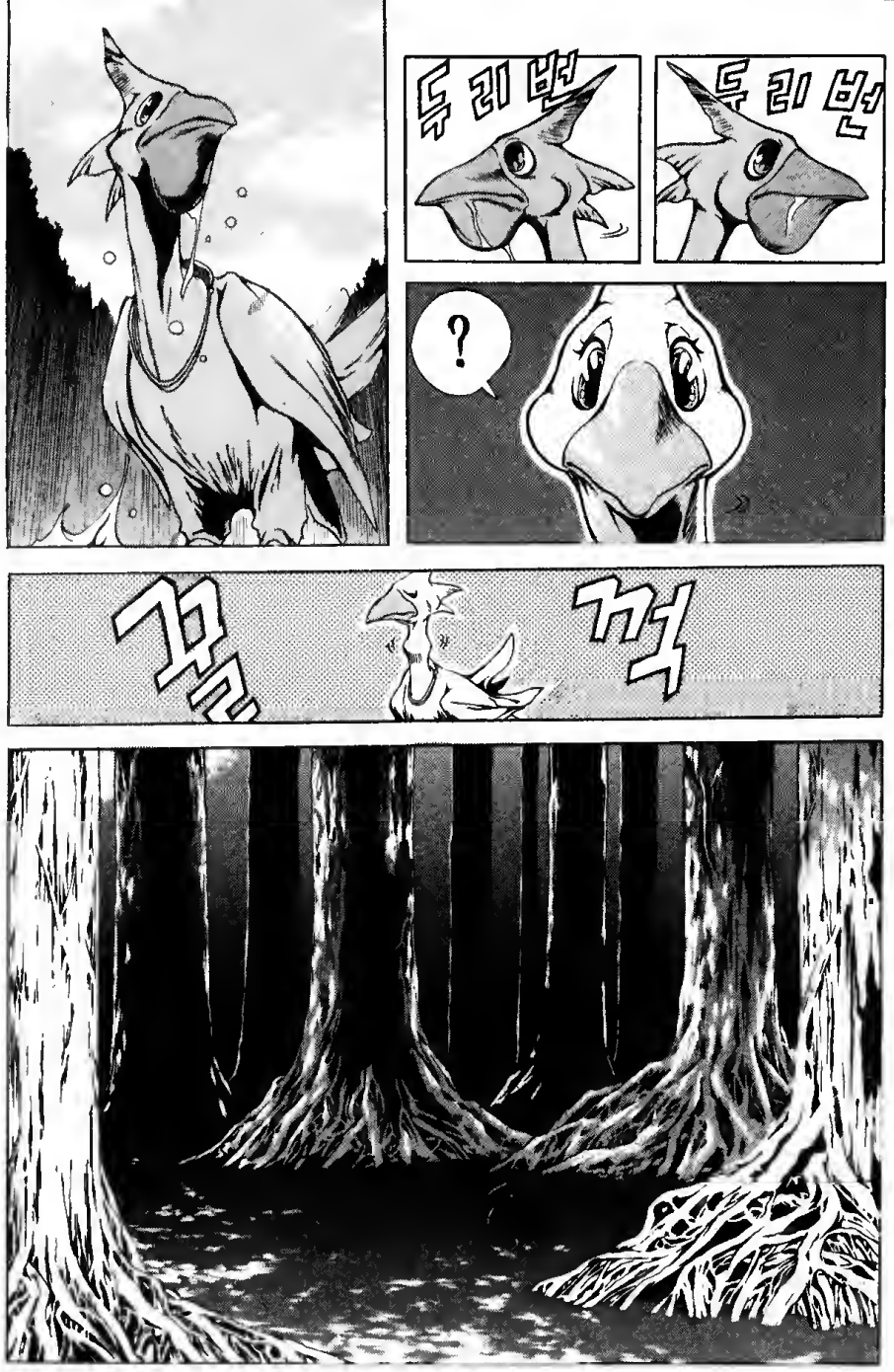
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MASTER...!
SACHUNGA!!

철퍽

HNH! UNH!
H-OOARK!
HURK!
GAK!

NICE...

Fwump!

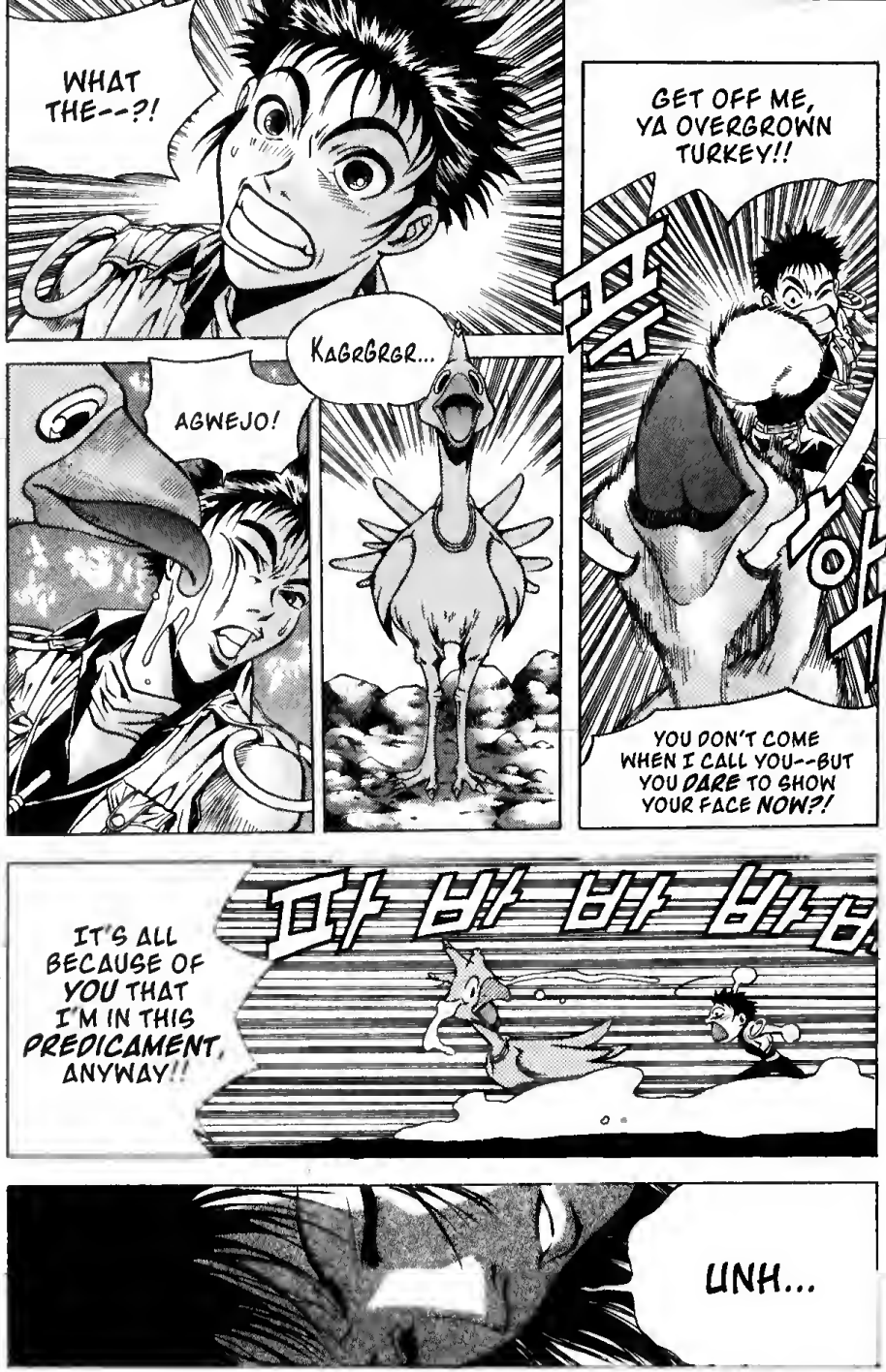
AND AFTER ALL THAT, INSTEAD OF RUBIES AND DIAMONDS, I GET SOME FANCY LAD WITH CHICK HAIR!

ZZZ
GRRR...

MM...

.....?

SO HE'S AWAKE, EH?! HEY! GET UP! I SAID GET UP!!
NOW, OUT WITH IT! SPILL IT, YOU--
YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME WHERE THE TREASURE IS, UNDERSTAND?! AND DON'T THINK THAT MOANING IS GONNA MAKE ME TAKE IT EASIER ON YOU!!


WHAT THE--?!
GET OFF ME, YA OVERGROWN TURKEY!!
KAGRGRGR...
AGWEJO!
YOU DON'T COME WHEN I CALL YOU--BUT YOU DARE TO SHOW YOUR FACE NOW?!
IT'S ALL BECAUSE OF YOU THAT I'M IN THIS PREDICAMENT, ANYWAY!!
UNH...

BLAAGH! SONOFA--!!
HEY...THIS GUY REALLY IS SICK!!
UH ...
HNH ...
WHATTA PANSY! I MEAN, ACTUALLY GETTING SICK OVER A FEW DROPS OF... O-OF . AAACHOO!!
KAGRGRGR!
YOU THINK I DON'T KNOW THAT?!
뻐

OF COURSE I HAVE TO KEEP HIM ALIVE TO FIND OUT WHERE THE TREASURE IS HIDDEN!! IF NOT, THEN ALL THAT EFFORT WILL BE FOR ZILCH!!

WELL...I GUESS THE FIRST THING I NEED TO DO IS GET THESE WET CLOTHES OFF AND GET 'IM WARMED UP...

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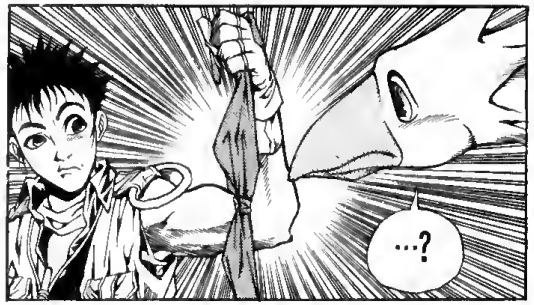
JEEZ!! I'VE PEELED POTATOES THAT WERE LESS COMPLICATED!!
FRIGGIN' RICH DUMMY CLOTHES!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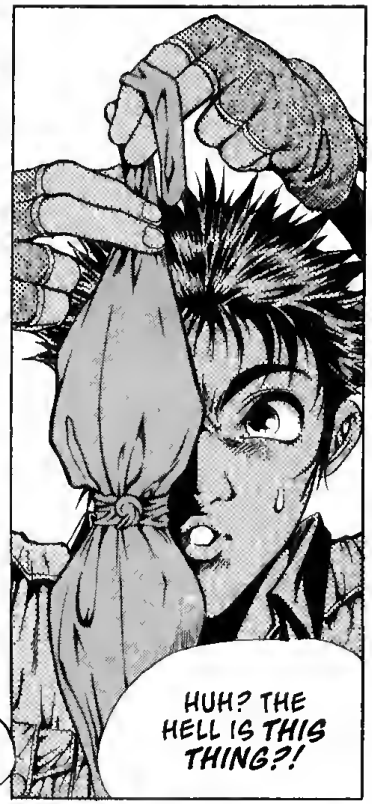
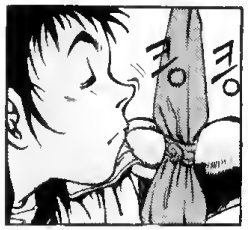
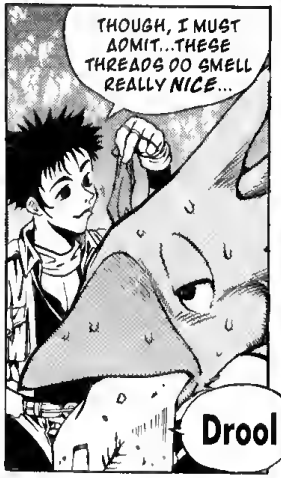
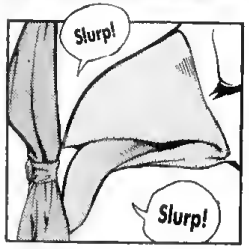
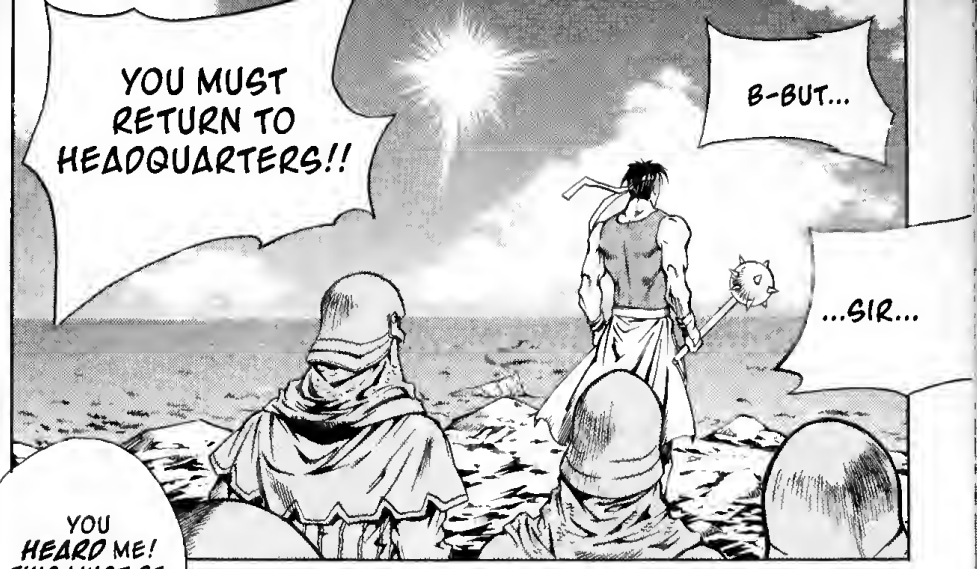

HUH? THE HELL IS THIS THING?!

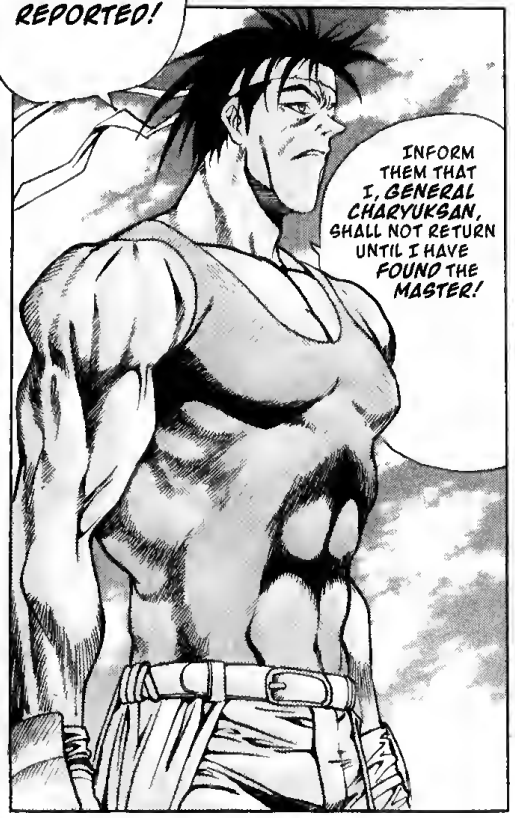


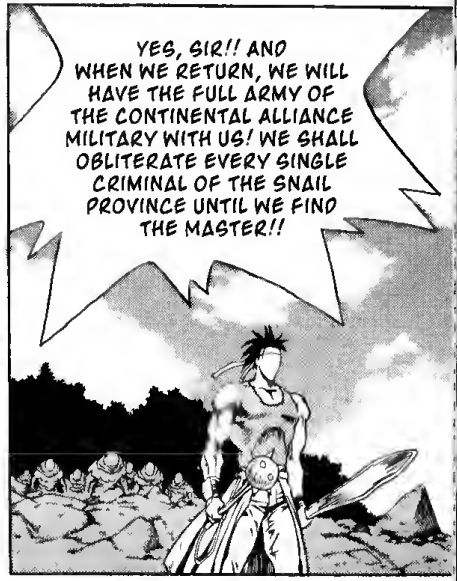

THOUGH, I MUST ADMIT...THESE THREADS DO SMELL REALLY NICE...
Drool


Slurp!
Slurp!

YOU HAVE YOUR ORDERS! NOW FOLLOW THEM!!


YOU MUST RETURN TO HEADQUARTERS!!
B-BUT...
...SIR...


YOU HEARD ME! THIS MUST BE REPORTED!
INFORM THEM THAT I, GENERAL CHARYUKSAN, SHALL NOT RETURN UNTIL I HAVE FOUND THE MASTER!


YES, SIR!! AND WHEN WE RETURN, WE WILL HAVE THE FULL ARMY OF THE CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE MILITARY WITH US! WE SHALL OBLITERATE EVERY SINGLE CRIMINAL OF THE SNAIL PROVINCE UNTIL WE FIND THE MASTER!!

BLADE OF HEAVEN

WELL, AT LEAST THAT EXPLAINS WHY HE--ER, SHE-- HAS A POUND OF CLOTHING ON!

WAAAH!!

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DURRRK!!
빡!

PHEW! FINALLY! IT'S ALL OFF!!

UHH...

OOCH! EECH! HOT!!
YOU CRAZY CROSS-DRESSING BROAD! YOU TRYIN' TO ROAST ME OR WHAT?!

I SAVE YOU FROM DROWNING-- AND THIS IS HOW YOU PAY ME BACK ?!
HUNH!

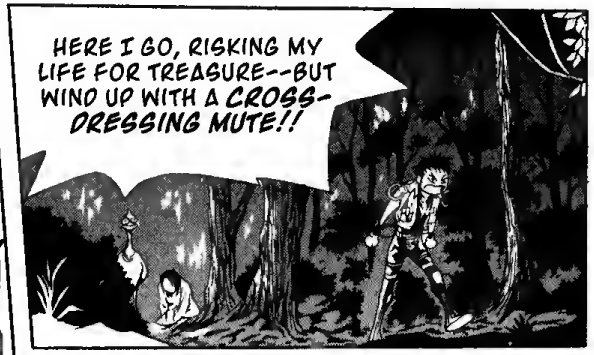
THAT'S IT! A LESSON NEEDS TO BE TAUGHT-- AND THE SCHOOL BELL JUST RANG!!

UH...! DUH! PUH!

AH! EEE OOO!

OH...SHE'S MUTE...

HA! THIS JUST KEEPS GETTING BETTER...!


HERE I GO, RISKING MY LIFE FOR TREASURE--BUT WIND UP WITH A CROSS-DRESSING MUTE!!

WHICH ULTIMATELY MEANS IT'S POINTLESS TO EVEN ASK YOU WHERE THE TREASURE IS--BECAUSE EVEN IF YOU *DID* KNOW, YOU COULDN'T *TELL* ME ANYWAY!!
드드드드

THAT'S JUST PERFECT! ALL I NEED NOW IS A BOULDER TO ROLL OVER ME, AND I'LL HAVE A *MATCHING SET* OF *MISFORTUNE!!*
HUFF!
PUFF!

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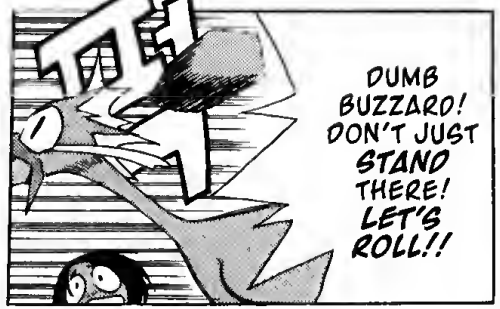
DUMB BUZZARD! DON'T JUST *STAND* THERE! *LET'S ROLL!!*

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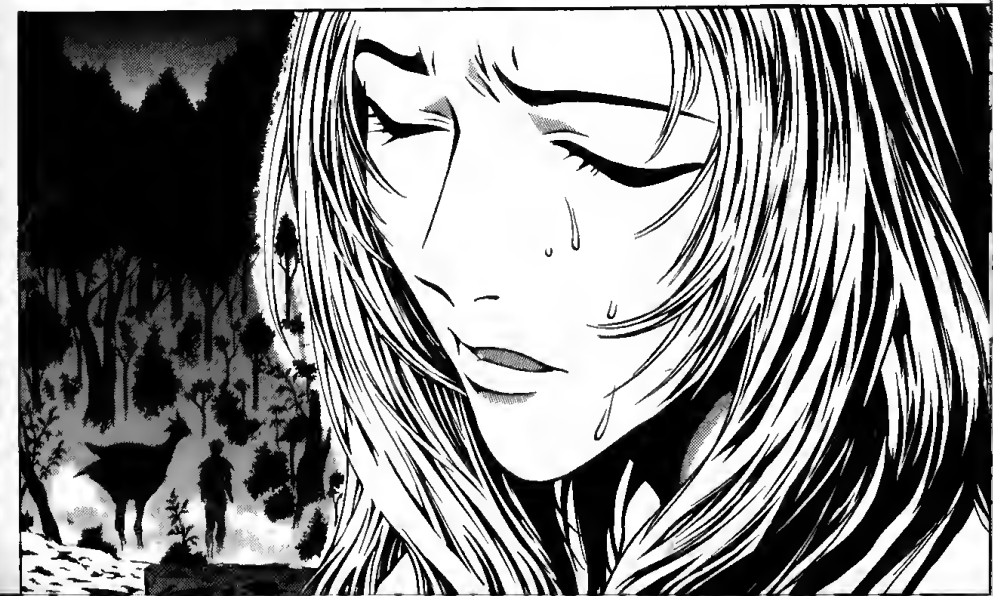
O

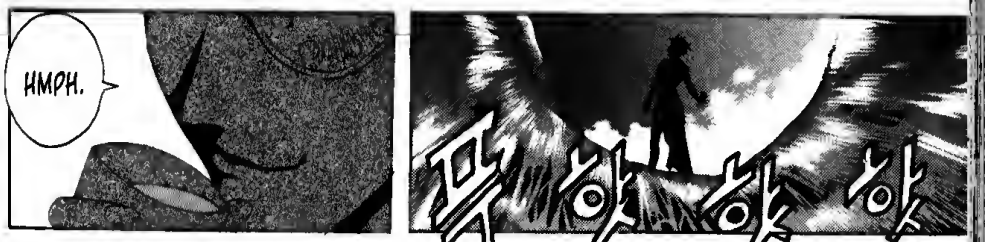
DON'T GIVE ME THAT LOOK! WE GOTTA GET GOING BEFORE THE SEARCH PARTY ARRIVES!
YOU'RE HOPELESS, YOU KNOW THAT?! ALL IT TAKES IS A PRETTY GIRL TO GIVE YOU DOE EYES--AND YOU'RE READY TO MOLT ALL OVER YOURSELF!
팍 팍 팍

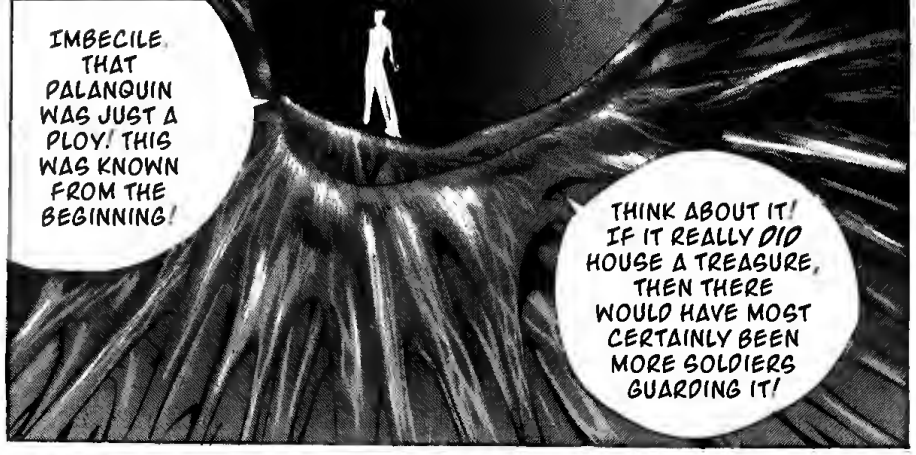
KUGORO-GOGO!
WHAT'D YOU JUST SAY ABOUT MY MOM?!

KKNG KKNG!
MUTINY, EH? WELL BRING IT, NOODLE NECK! YOU'LL BE DEEP-FRIED BY DINNER!



Editor: Majeh translates to devil/demon.




IMBECILE. THAT PALANQUIN WAS JUST A PLOY! THIS WAS KNOWN FROM THE BEGINNING!
THINK ABOUT IT! IF IT REALLY DID HOUSE A TREASURE, THEN THERE WOULD HAVE MOST CERTAINLY BEEN MORE SOLDIERS GUARDING IT!

THE ALLIANCE'S TREASURE WAS MERELY A FABRICATION CONCOCTED BY SAJA KHAN'S DAUGHTER!

FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, THE NEWS ABOUT THE TREASURE RELOCATION WAS A BLATANT LIE DESIGNED TO COVER THEIR ATTEMPTS TO SCOUT FOR TROOPS!

EVEN SO...IF ONLY WE HAD CAPTURED SAJA KHAN'S DAUGHTER, WE COULD HAVE FORCED HIM TO--

FOOL! SAJA KHAN'S NOT THE TYPE WHO WOULD ACQUIESCE JUST BECAUSE WE KIDNAPPED HIS DAUGHTER!!
IN FACT, IT ACTUALLY BENEFITS US THAT THOSE SNAIL VERMIN CAPTURED HER!
WHAT...? BUT...I DON'T...?
ANGERED BY THE CAPTURE OF HIS DAUGHTER, SAJA KHAN WILL WAGE WAR AGAINST THOSE SNAIL PROVINCE DREGS!

AND WHEN THOSE TWO GROUPS ARE EXHAUSTED FROM THEIR FIGHT...
...I, MAJEH, WILL KILL THEM ALL!!

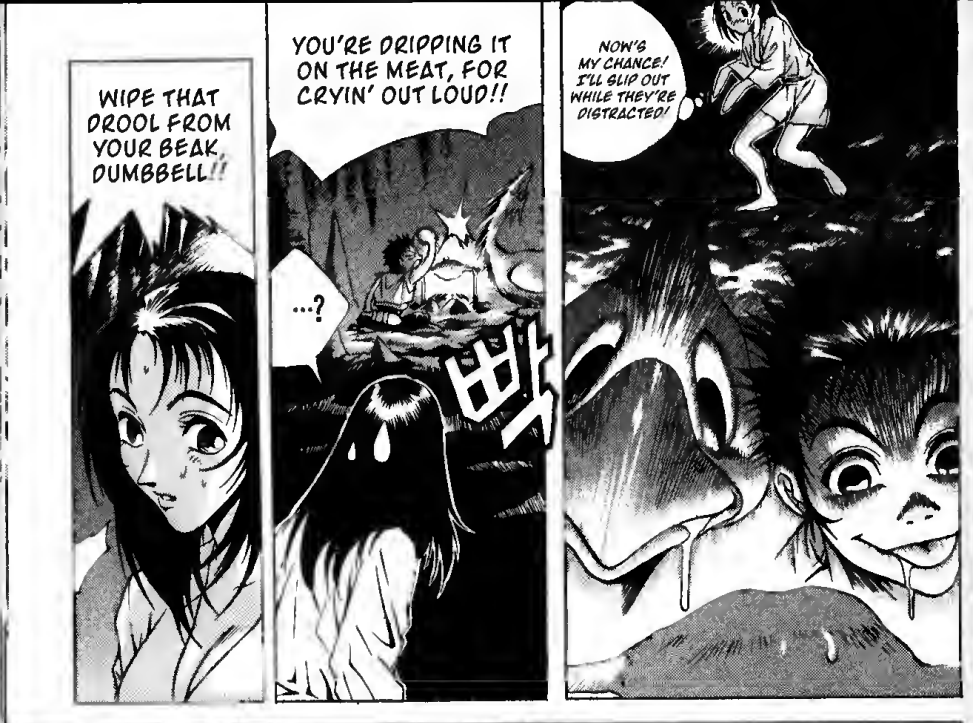
KOo ROo...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! MOVE THOSE DRUMSTICKS!
HUH...? WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH THE FREAK LIGHTNING STORM?

I DON'T UNDERSTAND... THERE'S ONLY ONE SET OF FOOTPRINTS HERE...
STILL WARM...
WHICH MEANS THEY WERE JUST HERE!
SACHUNSA, IF YOU'VE HURT ONE HAIR ON THE MASTER'S HEAD... THE RAIN WILL BE WASHING AWAY YOUR BLOOD!!
WHAT HAS HE DONE WITH THE MASTER?! DAMMIT! I MUST HURRY BEFORE THE RAIN WASHES AWAY HIS FOOTSTEPS!

Rain:
The Tropical Oorim Region has a most unique climate. During its frequent torrential rain showers, the climate remains extremely hot and muggy. However, after the rainstorms, the air becomes extremely cold.

BLADE OF HEAVEN

UMM...
...!
WHERE AM...?
THAT'S RIGHT...! I'VE BEEN KIDNAPPED!


WIPE THAT DROOL FROM YOUR BEAK, DUMBBELL!!
YOU'RE DRIPPING IT ON THE MEAT, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!!
...?
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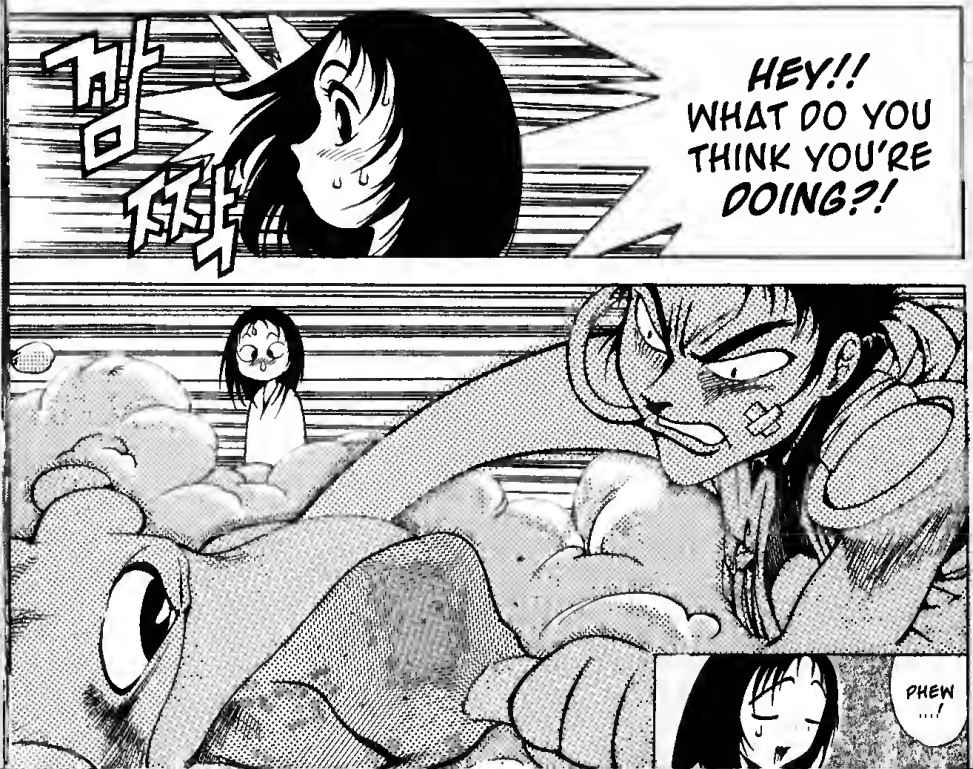
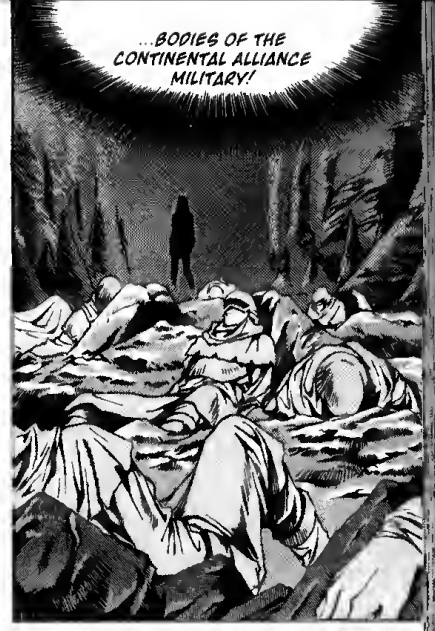
NOW'S MY CHANCE! I'LL SLIP OUT WHILE THEY'RE DISTRACTED!


HEY!! WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
PHEW ...!

?

NO... THESE ARE...


...BODIES OF THE CONTINENTAL ALLIANCE MILITARY!

NO...IT'S ALL TRUE! THE SNAIL PROVINCE BANDITS...

...THEY REALLY DO EAT... PEOPLE!!

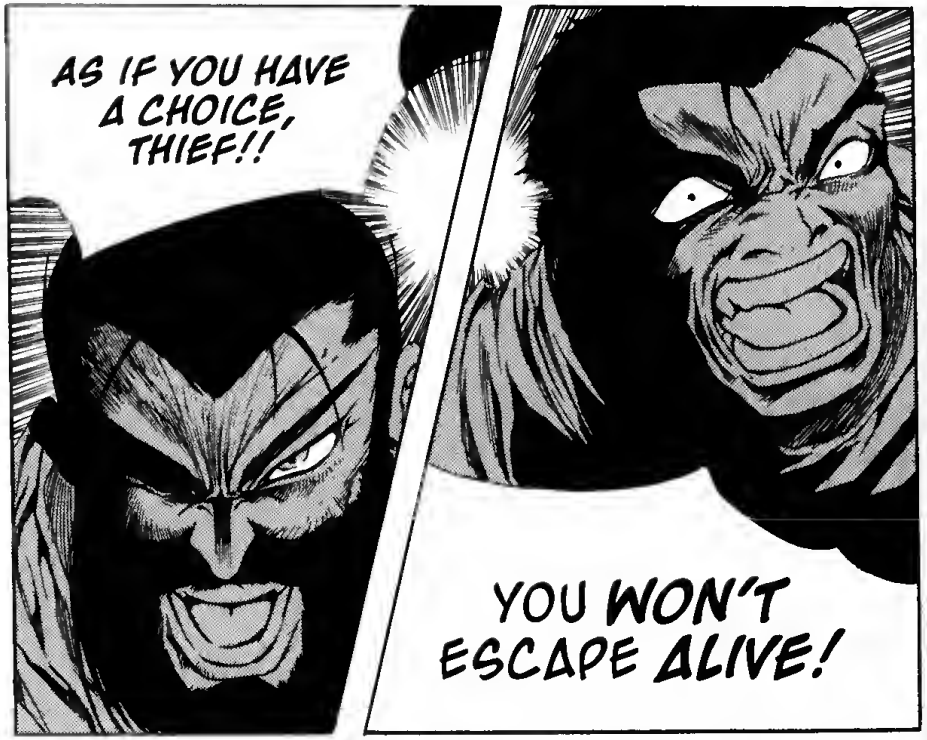
BLADE OF HEAVEN

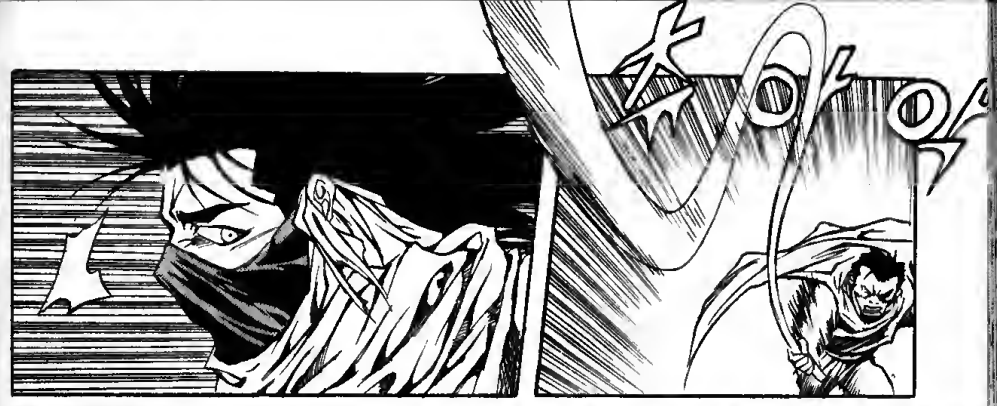
HE'S STOLEN THE BLADE OF HEAVEN!!
GET HIM!!
KILL HIM!!
HEE!
YOU'RE VERY DARING, THIEF. I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.
DO YOU EVEN REALIZE WHAT THIS PLACE IS?! YOU MUSTN'T, SINCE YOU TRIED TO STEAL THE BLADE FROM UNDERNEATH OUR VERY NOSES...!

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU WERE ABLE TO STEAL THE BLADE FROM THE SA MANG SA GATEWAYS OF DEATH...BUT I, DONGBANG HO, THE BEST OF THE HUK CHUN CLAN WILL STOP YOU!!
CHOOHON ATTACK!!
LET'S SEE HOW LONG YOU'LL LAST AGAINST...
...THE HANG RYONG BOK CLAN'S ZENITH SWORD!

NOW YOU SHALL DIE!!
Tap!
HUH!

WHAT?! THAT WAS THE ASCENSION CLAN'S ENERGY!!
YOU... YOU'RE ...?
FORGIVE ME! I WILL FORFEIT MY LIFE TO REPAY YOU!


AS IF YOU HAVE A CHOICE, THIEF!!
YOU WON'T ESCAPE ALIVE!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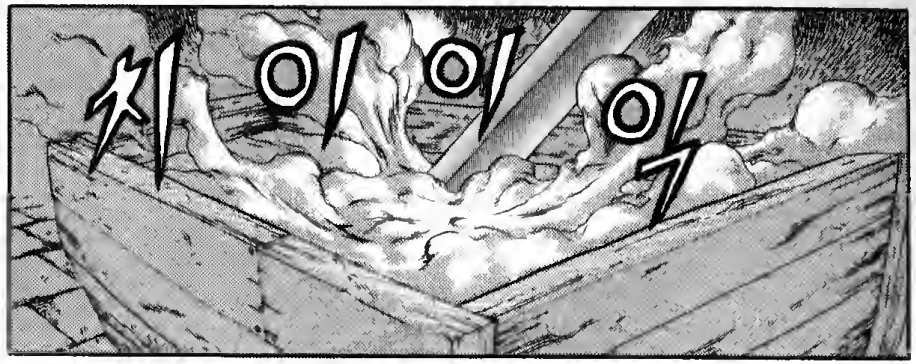
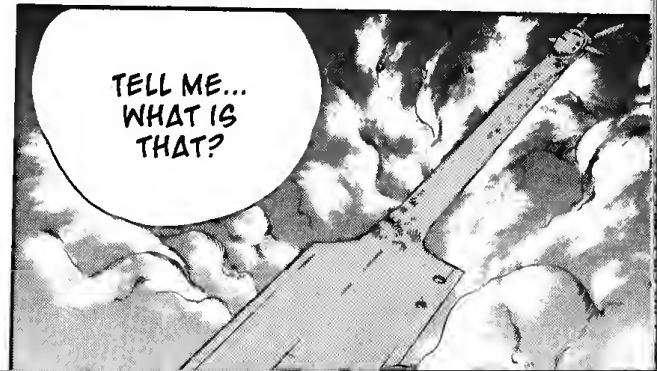
LOOK! THAT'S THE ASCENSION CLAN'S REVOLUTION ENERGY ATTACK!
ASCENSION STRIKE!!



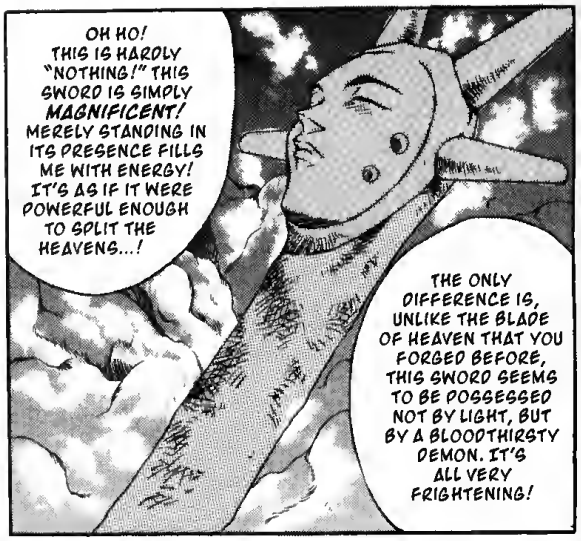
AND WHAT BRINGS YOU, OF ALL PEOPLE, TO THIS HUMBLE PLACE...?

HEH...PLEASE. SUCH MODESTY IS UNWARRANTED. NO MATTER HOW CLUTTERED A PLACE MAY BE, YOUR VERY PRESENCE IS LIKE A WARM SPRING BREEZE.

OH. UM, THANK YOU. SO...WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE...?
I WAS OUT FOR A WALK AND SAW A LIGHT ON IN YOUR WINDOW.


TELL ME... WHAT IS THAT?

OH...THIS? IT'S NOTHING! JUST SOMETHING I'M WORKING ON TO PASS THE TIME...


OH HO! THIS IS HARDLY "NOTHING!" THIS SWORD IS SIMPLY MAGNIFICENT! MERELY STANDING IN ITS PRESENCE FILLS ME WITH ENERGY! IT'S AS IF IT WERE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO SPLIT THE HEAVENS...!
THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS, UNLIKE THE BLADE OF HEAVEN THAT YOU FORGED BEFORE, THIS SWORD SEEMS TO BE POSSESSED NOT BY LIGHT, BUT BY A BLOODTHIRSTY DEMON. IT'S ALL VERY FRIGHTENING!

FATE WILL DETERMINE SUCH THINGS. IT IS OUT OF MORTAL HANDS.
ONCE THE PATH HAS BEEN SET, WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO TREAD OUR DESTINED ROADS.
KYOU

WHERE THERE IS GOOD, THERE IS EVIL. SUCH IS THE WAY OF ALL THINGS IN THIS WORLD. THE BLADE NEEDED ITS COUNTERPART...SO THIS SWORD SERVES AS A COUNTER-BALANCE.
IT IS AS THE SAYING GOES...THE MORE INNOCENT THE LAMB, THE MORE LIKELY IT WILL BE SEDUCED BY EVIL!

MASTER OOSA...YOUR THOUGHTS ARE SO DEEP, I CAN NO LONGER SEE THE SURFACE OF THE LAKE! HA HA HA!
I'M AFRAID IT IS ALL TOO INTELLECTUAL FOR ME TO COMPREHEND! THAT SAID...SHOULD THIS SWORD FALL INTO EVIL HANDS...

HIEI

AMAZING! YOU SINGLE-HANDEDLY DEFEATED THE THREE BEST WARRIORS IN ALL FIFTEEN CLANS OF THE EASTERN RACE! IT'S JUST WHAT YOU'D EXPECT FROM THE EASTERN RACE'S MIGHTIEST WARRIOR!
짜!
짜!
짜!
짝!
WHY DID YOU DO IT, BROTHER CHUN?

IF YOU HADN'T RESCUED ME FROM THE SA MANG SA GATEWAYS OF DEATH, YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN THE WIELDER OF THE BLADE.

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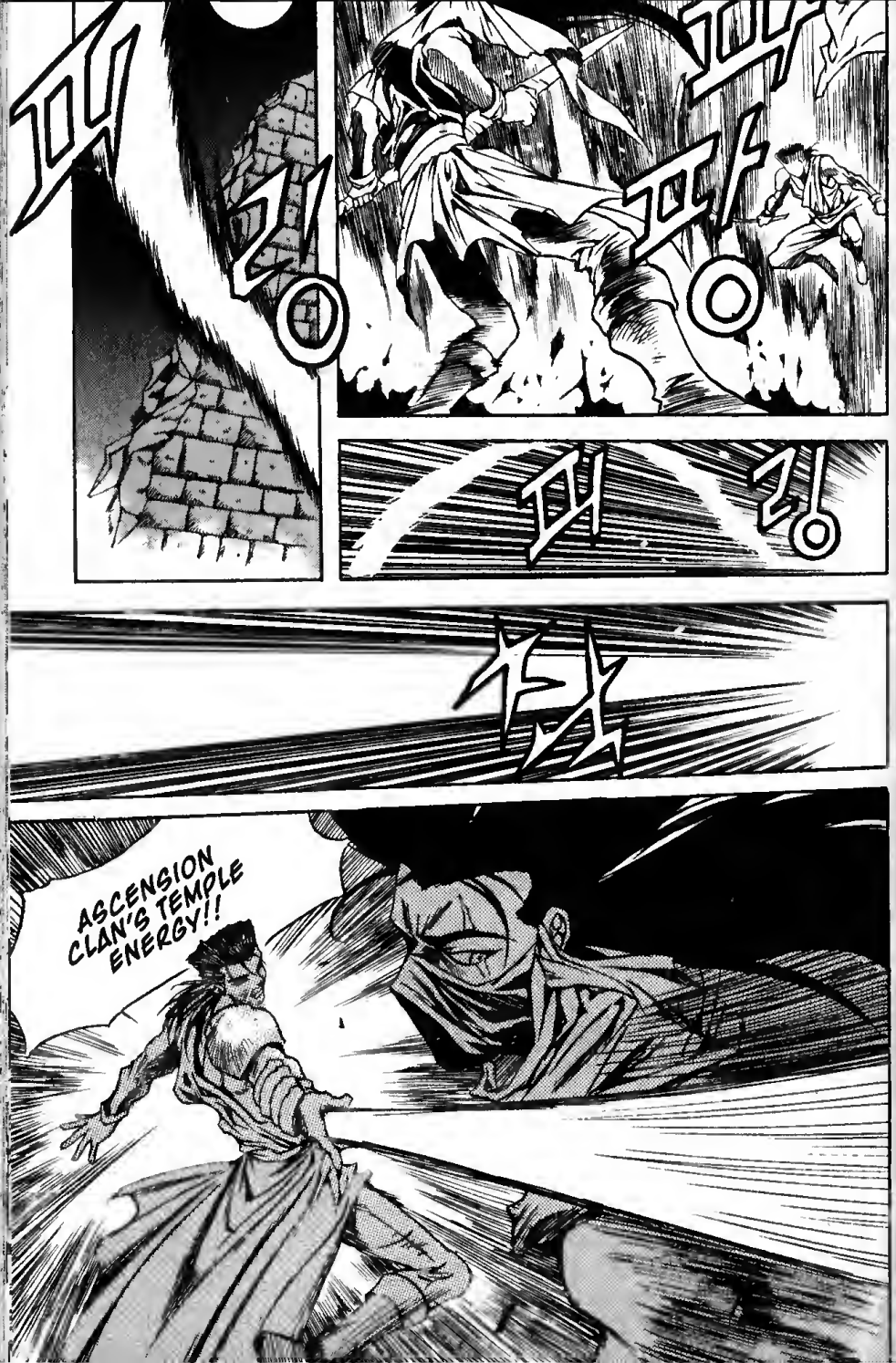
THE SILENT TREATMENT, EH? I SEE. WELL, YOU CAN HOLD YOUR TONGUE AS LONG AS YOU WISH. I STILL KNOW WHO YOU ARE.
I MEAN, WHO ELSE COULD FIGHT AS WELL AS YOU HAVE?
Gulp!
Gulp!
NO ONE ELSE COMES TO MIND.
BUT KNOW THIS... IF YOU INSIST ON REMAINING QUIET IN ORDER TO HIDE YOUR IDENTITY...
...I WILL EXPOSE IT!
EL!
BUT THERE IS SOMETHING I JUST CAN'T SEEM TO FIGURE OUT...
YOU HAD A CHANCE BEFORE TO OBTAIN THE BLADE FAIR AND SQUARE... BUT INSTEAD, YOU'RE STEALING IT KNOWING FULL WELL THAT YOU WILL BE BRANDED AS A TRAITOR BY YOUR OWN RACE.
YOU COULD HAVE BEEN THE HEAD OF ALL THE FIFTEEN CLANS OF THE EASTERN RACE.
.....
FIRE POISON WINE!!

Fire Poison Wine: A wine with a high poison content that induces on excruciating burning sensotion in the victim's stomach os they die. When the wine is expased to the oir it hos on alarming tendency af explading at the slightest increase in temperoture.

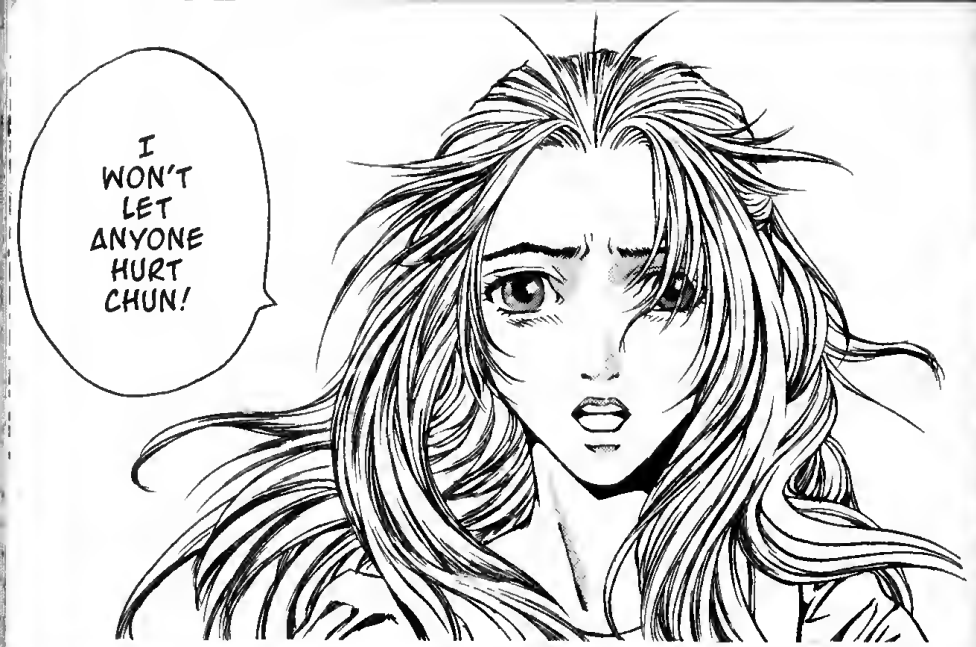
YES!! I'M FINALLY A DAD!! YEEAH!!
MASTER OOSA! WHERE ARE YOU?! MY WIFE GAVE BIRTH TO A SON!!
MASTER OOSA!!
I NAMED HIM KAY JUST AS YOU WAN--
NOO!!
MASTER OOSA!!
IT'S... YOU...
AND SO THE BLOODSHED BEGINS! SOON, A WAVE OF GORE WILL STAIN THE LAND...AND MY ASCENSION TO POWER WILL BEGIN!!

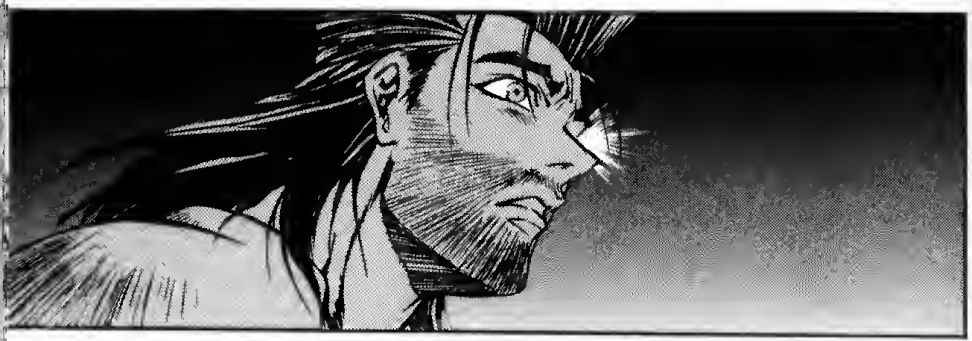

ASCENSION CLAN'S TEMPLE ENERGY!!

HOW LONG DO YOU THINK YOU CAN CONTINUE HIDING BEHIND THAT MASK?!
THOUGH I MUST APPLAUD YOUR COMMITMENT... YOU'RE EVEN USING BASIC SWORD STRIKES TO CONCEAL YOUR IDENTITY!
BUT YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO KEEP THIS UP FOR TOO MUCH LONGER!
SWORD EXTEND!!

FEVER SPEAR!!
WHY IS HE NOT DEFENDING HIMSELF?!

STOP!!
MOVE ASIDE!!
WAIT... I KNOW THIS ATTACK TECHNIQUE ...!

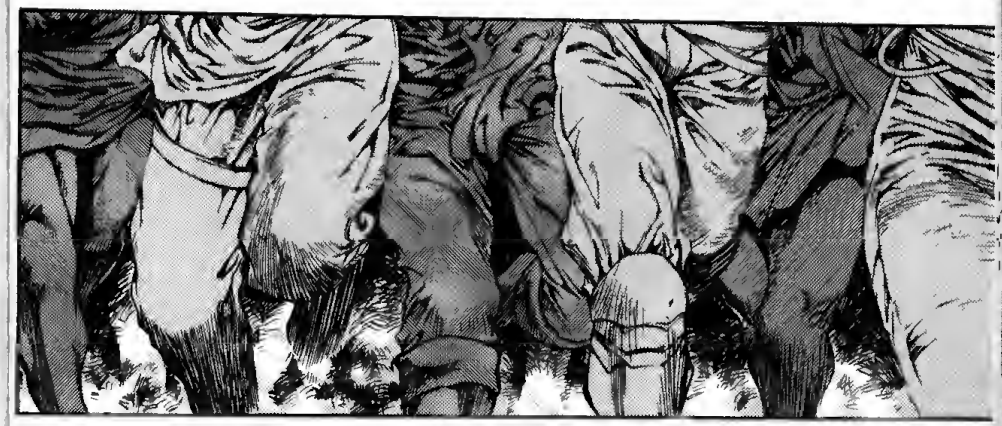

I WON'T LET ANYONE HURT CHUN!



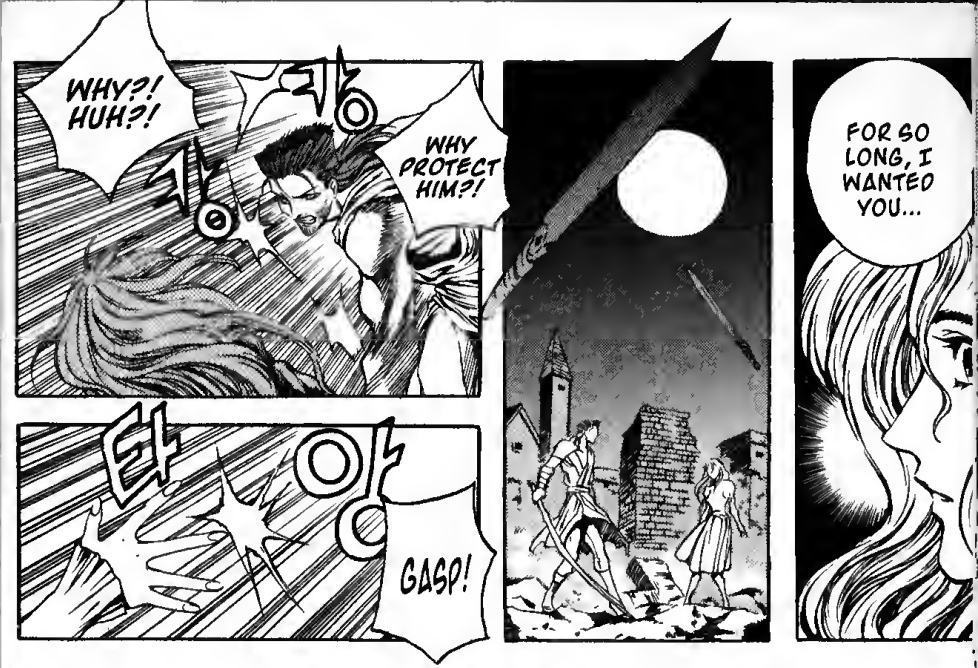
CHUN-- GO! LEAVE THIS TO ME!
WHEN THE OTHER CLAN MEMBERS ARRIVE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO ESCAPE!

OH, CHUN...

BLADE OF HEAVEN



NO!! YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME!!
LET HIM GO, TAN!
DAMMIT! MOVE ASIDE, YUNA!!
SURE I WILL...AFTER YOU KILL ME! THEN YOU CAN PUSH MY CORPSE AWAY!
HE'S RUNNING AWAY LIKE A COWARD AND LEAVING YOU HERE--BUT YET YOU'RE STILL WILLING TO DIE FOR HIM?!


WHY?! HUH?!
WHY PROTECT HIM?!
GASP!
FOR SO LONG, I WANTED YOU...

FOR SO LONG, I WAS WILLING TO GIVE UP EVERYTHING... FOR YOU.

GO.
I'LL DO THIS ONE LAST THING FOR YOU.
TAN...
THAT'S AS FAR AS YOU'RE GOING TO GO!!
BROTHER TAN? WHAT ARE YOU...?!

I...I'M SORRY... BUT I CAN'T HELP HOW I FEEL!
SHE... LOVES HIM...?
I'D DIE FOR THE ONE I LOVE!
THE TRAITOR MUST BE CAPTURED!
RECOVER THE BLADE AT ALL COSTS!!

TAN!! WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!
HE'S A TRAITOR, TOO!!
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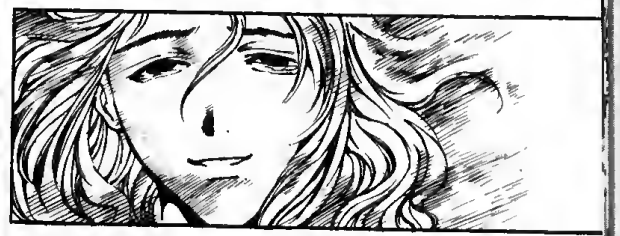
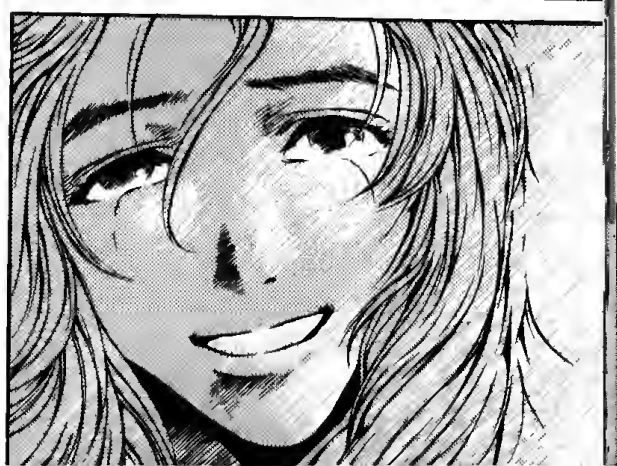
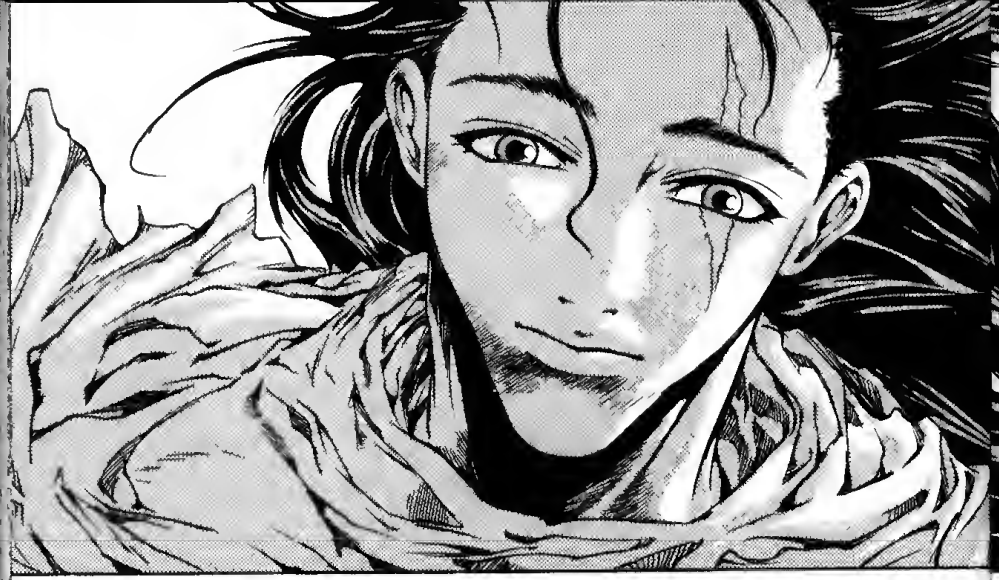
JUST AS YOU WOULD DIE FOR CHUN... I WOULD DIE FOR YOU, YUNA, MY LOVE!

RUN, YUNA...! RUN FAR, FAR AWAY!

YUNA!
CHUN!







CHUN...!
YOU WAITED
FOR ME!

Prologue: The Tale of King Pachun
Suspicious Actions — End

IN THE NEXT BONE-CRUNCHING VOLUME OF

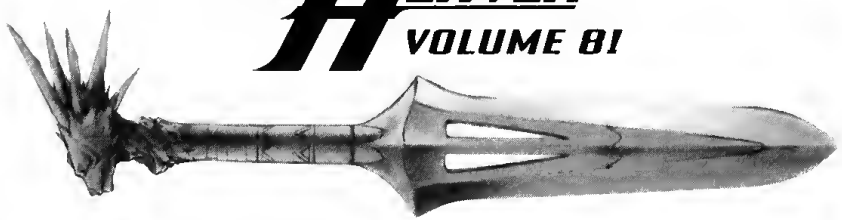
BLADE OF HEAVEN

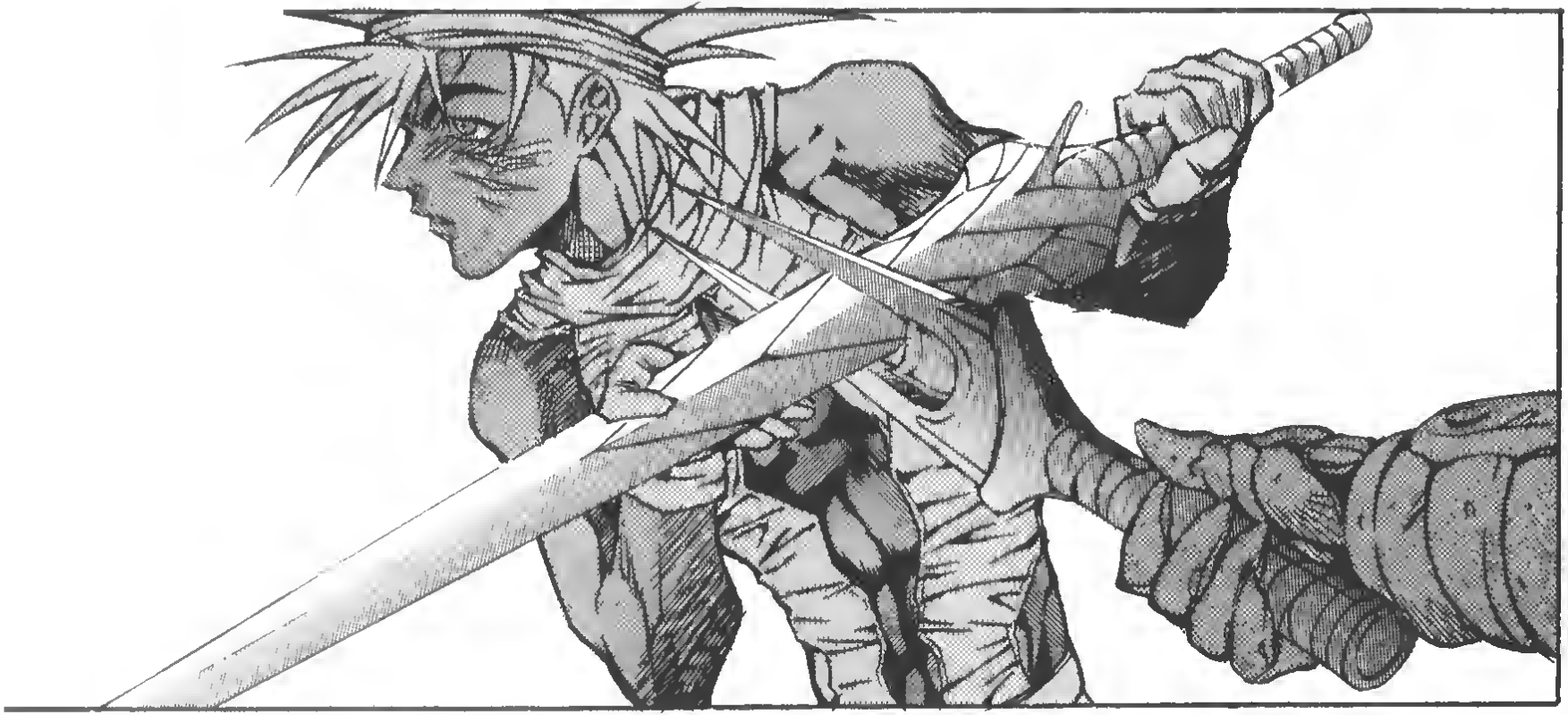
THE STORY OF THE RASCALLY SACHUNSA CONTINUES, AS HE AND HIS OOOLY SILENT FEMALE COMPANION MAKE THEIR WAY TOWARD THE SNAIL PROVINCE. ONCE THERE, THEY MAKE EVEN MORE STARTLING DISCOVERIES...ONE OF WHICH WILL LEAD SACHUNSA ON A QUEST FOR A POWERFUL ITEM, THE PROCUREMENT OF WHICH WILL DETERMINE WHETHER THE "SILENT PRINCESS" WILL LIVE OR DIE!

AND THROUGH IT ALL, MORE AND MORE SIMILARITIES BETWEEN SACHUNSA AND THE LEGENDARY SOMA CONTINUE TO GROW...

GET READY TO RUMBLE IN

BLADE OF HEAVEN VOLUME 8!





quick release by KickTheKitty